

A
QUIP FOR AN VP.
start Courtier:

Or,

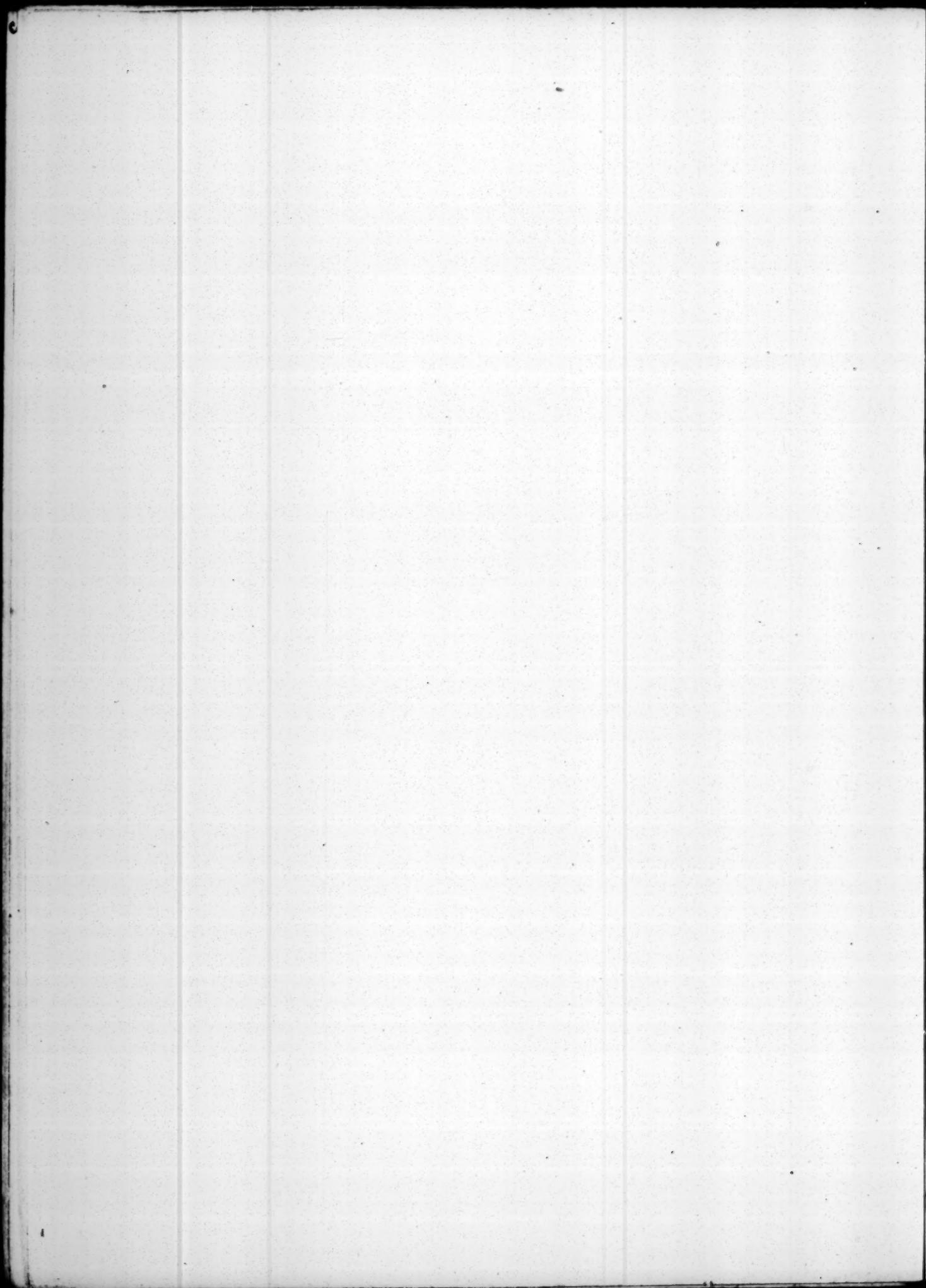
A quaint dispute between Veluet breeches
and Cloth-breeches.

*Wherein is plainely set downe the disorders
in all Estates and Trades.*



L O N D O N

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shop at Poules chayne. 1 5 9 2.



To the Right Worshipful Thomas Barnabie Esquier
Robert Greene wisheth hartes ease, and
heauens blisse.



Ir, after I had ended this Quippe for an vpstart Courtier, contayning a quaint dispute betweene Clothbreeches and Veluet breeches, wherein vnder a dreame I shadowed the abuses that Pride had bred in Englande, how it had infected the Court with aspiring Enuie, the Citie with griping couetousnesse, and the countrie with contempte and disdaine. How since men placed their delights in proud lookes and braue atyre, Hospitality was left off, Neighbourhood was exciled, Conscience was skofte at, and charitie lay frozen in the streets: how vpstart Gentlemen for the maintainance of that their fathers neuer lookt after, raised rents, rackte their tenants, and imposed greate fines, I stooode in a mase to whome I shoulde dedicate my labours, knowing I should bee bitten by many, sithens I had toucht many, and therefore neede some woorthye Patrone vnder whose winges I might shroud my selfe from Goodman finde fault. At last I cald to mind your Worship, and thought you the fittest of al: my frends, both for the duetie that I owe, and the woorshipfull qualities you are indued withall, as also for that all Northamptonshire reports how you are a father of the poore, a supporter of auintient Hospitalitie, an enimie to Pride, and to be short, a maintayner of Cloth breeches (I meane of the old and worthie customes of the Gentilitie and yeomanrie of England.) Induced by these reasons, I humbly present this phamplet to your Worship, only crauing you wil accept it as courtiously as I present it dutifully, and then I haue the end of my desire and so resting in hope of your fauourable acceptance, I humbly take my leaue.

Your duetifull adopted sonne,

Robert Greene.

To the Gentlemen Readers health.



Entle Gentlemen, I hope Cloth breeches shall find your gentle Censors of this homely Apologie of his antient prerogatiues sith though he speakes against Veluet breeches which you were, yet he twits not the weede but the vice, not the apparell when tis worthily worn, but the vnworthie person that weares it, who sprang of a Peasant will vse any sinister meanes to clime to preferment, being then so proude as the foppe forgets like the Asse that a mule was his father. For auntient Gentility and yeomanrie, Cloth breeches attempteth this quarrell, and hopes of their fauour: for vpstarts he is halfe careles, & the more, bicause he knowes whatsoeuer some thincke priuately, they will bee no publike carpers: least by kicking where they are toucht, they bewray their gald backs to the world, and by starting vp to find fault, proue themselues vpstarts and fooles. So then poore Cloth-breeches sets downe his rest on the courtesie of gentle gentlemen and bold Yeomen, that they will suffer him to take no wrong. But suppose the worst, that hee should be fround at, and that such occupations as hee hath vppon conscience discarded from the Iury, should commence an action of vnkindnesse against him, heele proue it not to hold plea, because all the debate was but a dreame. And so hoping all men will merrilie take it, he stands sollemnlic leaning on his pike staffe, till he heare what you conceaue of him for being so peremptorie. If well, he swears to crack his hose at the knees to quite your courtesie. If hardly, he hath vowed that whatsoeuer he dreames neuer to blab it againe, and so he wisheth me humbly to bid you farewell.

A quip for an vpstart Courtier.



It was iust at that time whe the Cuckoulds quir-
 rister began to bewray Apzill Gentlemen with
 his neuer chaunged notes, that I damped with a
 melancholy humoꝝ, went into the fields to cheere
 bp my wits with the fresh aire: where solitarie
 seeking to solace my selfe I fell in a dreame, and
 in that dꝛowlie slumber, I wandered into a vale
 al tapistred with swēte and choice flowers, there grew many simples
 whose vertues taught men to be subtil and to thinke nature by her
 wōds warnd men to be wary & by their secret pꝛoperties to checke
 manean & sensual imperfections. Amongst the rest, ther was the yel-
 low daffodil, a flowꝛe fit for gelous Dottrels, who thꝛough the be'wtꝫ
 of their honest wines grow suspitious, and so pꝛoue themseluer in the
 end cuckhold Heritikes, there buded out the checkred (Paunsie) oꝝ
 partly coloured hartes ease, an herbe sildome seene, either of such men
 as are weded to shꝛewes oꝝ oꝝ such women that haue hasty husbands,
 yet ther it grew, and as I slept to gather it, it slipt from me like Tan-
 talus fruit that failes their maister. At last, woondzing at this secret
 quality, I learned that none can weare it, be they kinges, but such
 as desire no moꝛe then they are borne too, noꝛ haue their wishes a-
 bone their fortunes. Uppon a banke boꝛding by, grewe womens
 wōdes, Ienell I meane for flatterers, fit generally for that here,
 sith while they are maidens, they wishe wantonly, while they are
 wīues they will wilfully, while they are widowes they would wil-
 lingly: add yet all these proud desires, are but close dessemblings.
 Peere adoining spꝛouted out the Courtiers comfort, Time, an herb
 that many stumble on and yet ouer slip, whose rancke sauoz and thick
 leanes, haue this pernler pꝛopertie, to make a snaille if the tast of the
 sappe as swift as a swallow, yet ioyned with this pꝛeiudice, that if
 she climbe to hastily she fals too soddenly. Wæ thought I saw diuers
 yong courtiers tread vpon it with high disdaine, but as they past a-
 way, an Adder lurking there bit them by the hæles that they wept:
 and then I might perceiue certaine clownes in clowted shoone ga-
 ther it, & eate of it with greedinesse: which no sooner was sunke into
 their maīwes, but they were metamorphosed, and lookt as pꝛoudlye
 thꝛough pesants, as if they had bæne borne to be pꝛinces companions.

Amongst the rest of these changlings whome the tast of time had

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thus altered, there was some that lifted their heads so high, as if they had been bred to looke no lower then stars, they thought *Noli altum sapere* was rather the saying of a foole, then the censure of a Philosopher, and therfore stretcht themselves on their tiptoes, as if they had been a kindred to the lord Tiptoft, and began to disdain their equals, scozne their inferiours, and euen their betters, forgetting no we that time had taught them to say masse, howe befoze they had playde the Clarks part to say Amen to the priest. Unth, then they were not so little as Gentlemen, and their owne conceipt was the Herald to blason their descente, from an old house, whose great grandfathers would haue bin glad of a new cottage to hide their heades in. Yet as the peacocke was apte in the pride of his beautilous fethers is knowne to be but a dunghill birde by his soule seete: so though the high looks and costly suits argue to the eyes of the world they were Cavaliers of great worthip, yet the churlish illiberality of their mindes, betwixt their fatheres were not above thzee poundes in the kinges bookes at a subsidie, but as these vpstart changelings went strouting like philopolimarchides the bzagart in Plautus, they lookte so proudly at the same, that they stumbled on a bed of Rue, that grew at the bottome of the banke where the Lime was planted, which fall vpon the dew of so bitter an herbe, taught them that such pponde peacockes as ouer hastily out run their fortunes at last to speedily, fall to repentance and yet some of them smild & said Rue was called herbe brace, which though they scozned in their youth, they might weare in their age, & it was neuer to late to say Miserere. As thus I stood musing at this time bozne broad, they vanisht away like Cadmus copelmates, that sprang vp of vipers teeth, so that casting mine eie aside after them, I saw where a crue of all estates were gathering flowers, what kind they were of I knewe not, but pretious, I gesse them in that they pluckt them with graedinesse, so that I drew towards them to be partaker of their profits, comming nêrer, I might see the weede they so wangled for, was a litle daper flowze, like a ground hannisuckle, called thyziff, praised generally of all, but practised for distillation but of few amongst the crue that seemed couetous of this herbe, there was a troope of old graibeards in beluet, sattin, and wornsted iackets, that stooped as nimbly to pluck it vp by the rootes, as if their ioynts had bene supled in the oile of Wisers skins, they spared no laboz & paines to get and gather, and what they got they gaue to certaine yong boies
and

an vpstart Courtier.

and girles that stood behind them, with their skirtes and laps open to receiue it, among whome some scattered it as fast as their fathers gathered it, waisting and spoiling it at their pleasure, which their fathers got with labour.

I thought them to be some Verbalistes or some Apothecaries that had imployed such paines to extract some rare quintessence out of this floure, but one standing by told me they were Cozmozantes and vsurers, that gathered it to fill their cosers with, & whereto (quoth I) is it pretious? what is the vertue of it? mary (quoth he) to qualifie the heat of insatiable mindes that like the serpente Dipsas neuer drinking enough till they are so full they burste, why then saide I the Diuell burst them all, and with that I fell into a great laughter, to see certain Italianate Contes, humozous Canaliers, yonthful Gentlemen, and Inamorati gagliardi, that scoznesfully plurt of it, and woze it a while as if they were wery of it, and at last left it as to base a floure to put in their nose gaies. Others that seemed Homini di grand istima by their lookes and their walkes gathered earnestly and did pocket it vp, as if they meant to keepe it carefully, but as they wer carrieng it away, there met them a troupe of nice wantons, faire women that like to Lamia had faces like Angels, eies like stars, brestes like the golden front in the Hesperides, but from the midle downewards their shapen like serpents. These with Hyzenlike allurment so entised these quaint squires, that they bestowed all their flowers vpon them for fauours, they themselves walking home by beggars bushe for a pennance. Amongst this crue were Lawyers and they gathered the Diuell and all, but poore poets were thrust backe and coulde not bee suffered to haue one handfull to put amongst their withered garlands of baies, to make them glorious. But Hob and John of the country they slept in churlishly, in their high startups, and gathered whole sackfuls, insomuch they woze besoms of Christ in their Hats like fuzehozses, or the lusty Gallants in a Morice dance: seeing the crue thus to wangle for so paltry a weede, I went alone to take one of all the other fragrant flowers that diapzed this vally, thereby I saw the Batchelers buttons, whose vertue is to make wanton maidens weepe when they haue woze it forty weekes vnder their apozns for a fauour.

Next them grwe the dessembling daisie, to warne such light of loue swenches not to trust euery faire promise that such amozous batchelers

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fers make them, but swæte sinels bzæd bitter repentaunce. Hard by grew the true louers pzimrose, whose kind sauour wissheth men to be faithfull and women courteous, Alongst in a bozder grew maiden-hair fit for modest maidens to behold, and immodest to blushe at, because it pzaiseth the one for their naturall Tresses, and condemneth the other for their beastly and counterfeit Perriwigs, there was the gentle gilliflowze that wines should weare if they were not too forward and loyall Lavender, but that was full of Cukoe-spittes, to shew that womens light thoughts make their husbands heuy heads: there were sweete Lillies Gods plenty, which shewed faire Virgins need not weepe for wowers, and stoe of balme which could cure strang wounds, only not that wound which women receiue when they lose their maidenheads, for no herbe hath vertue inough to scrape out that blot, and therfore it is the greater blemish. Infinit were the flowers beside that beautified the valley, that to know their names and operations I needed some curious herball, but I passe them ouer as needlesse, sith the vision of their vertues was but a dreame, and therfore I wish no man to hold anye discourie heerein authenticall, yet thus much I must say for a parting blow, that at the lower end of the dale I saw a great many of women vsing high words to their husbandes, some striving for the bzæches, other to haue the last word, some fretting they could not find a knot in a rush, others striving whether it were wooll or haire the Goat bare, questioning with one that I met, why these women were so cholericke, he like a skoling fellow pointed to a bush of nettles, I not willing to be satisfied by signes, asked him what he meant thareby. Mary (quoth hee) al these women that you heare bzalwing frowning and scolding thus haue senerally piss on this bush of nettles, & the vertue of them is to force a woman that waters them to bee as peeuish for a whole day and as waspish as if she had bene stung in the brow with a hoznet. Well, I smild at this and left the company to seeke further, when in the twinklinge of an eie I was left alone, the valley cleared of all company, & I a distressed man, desirous to wander out of that solitary place to seeke good consoztes & one companions to passe away the day withall. As thus I walked forward seeking vp the hill, I was driuen halfe into a mase with the imagination of a strang wonder which fell out thus: I thought I saw an vncooth headlesse thinge come pacing downe the hill stepping so pzoudly with such a geometricall grace, as if some artificiall

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Officiall bzagart had resolved to measure the world with his paces: E could not describe it to bee a man, although it had motion, for that it wanted a body, yet seeing legges and hole, I supposed it to bee some monster nurishte vpp in those desertes, at last as it drew moze nigh vnto mee, I might perceiue that it was a very passing costly paire of Weluet-bzeeches, whose paines beeing made of the cheefest Neapoli-tane stuffe, was drawn ouer with the best Spanish Satine, and mar-nellous curiously ouer whipt with gold twist, intersemed with knots of pearle, the fetherstocke was of the purest Granado silke, no cost was spared to sett out these costly bzeeches, who had girt vnto them a Rapier and Dagger gilt, point pendante, as quaintly as if some cu-rious Florentine had trickte them vp to square it vp and downe the streetes before his Districke. As these bzeeches were exceeding sum-ptuous to the eye, so were they passing pompous in their gestures, for they strutted vp and downe the Wallly as proudly as though they had there appointed to act some desperate combat,

Blame mee not if I were drawn into a muse with this most mon-strous sight to see in that place such a strange headlesse Courtier let-tinge vpp and down like the Wsher of a fence-schoole about to play his Wile, when I deeme neuer in any age such a woonderfull object fortun'd vnto any man before. Well, the greater dumpe this nouel-ty drew mee into, the moze desire I had to see what euent would fol-low: where vpon looking about to se if that any moze company would com, I might perceiue from the toppe of the other hill an other paire of Bzeeches moze soberly marching, and with a softer pace, as if they were not to hasty, and yet would keepe promise neuertheless at the place appointed. As soone as they were come into the vallie, I sawe they were a plaine paire of Cloth-bzeeches, without either wolf or garde, straight to the thigh of white Kerse, without a stop, the nether-stocke of the same, sewed too aboue the knee, and onely leamed with a little couentry blewe, such as in Diebus illis our great Grandfathers wore, when neighbour-hood and hospitality had banished pride out of England, for where these plaine bzeeches weaponlesse, for they had a good sower bat with a pike in the end, able to laie on load inough, if the hart were answerable to the weapon, and vpon this stasse pitcht downe vpon the ground, Cloth-bzeeches stood solemnly leaning, as if they ment not to start, but to answer to the bittermost whatsoeuer in that place might be objected. Looking vpon these two, I might per-

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reue by the pride of the one, and homely resolution of the other that this their meeting would grow to some dangerous conflict, and therefore to prevent the fatall issue of such a pretended quarrell, I stept betwene them both, when Ucluet braches greeted Cloth braches with this salutation. Proud and insolent peasant, how darrest thou without leaue or lowe reuerence presse into the place where I am come for to disporte my selfe: Art thou not afraid: thy high presumption should common me to displeasure, and so force me to draw my rapier, which is neuer vntheathed but it turnes to the scabberd with a triumph of mine enemies blood: bold bayard auant, beard mee not to my face, for this time I pardon thy folly, and graunt thy legges leaue to carry away thy life. Cloth braches nothing amased at this bzauido, bending his staffe as if he ment (if he were wronged) to bestow his benison, with a scoznesfull kind of smiling made this smooth reply: Hargippe goodman vpstart, who made your father a Gentleman, soft fire makes sweet mault, the curstest Cow hath the hottest hoznes, and a bawling curr, of all bites the least, alas good sir, are you so fine that no man may bee your fellow, I pray you what difference is betwene you and mee but in the cost and the making, though you bee neuer so richly daubde with golde and poudzed with Pearle, yet you are but a case for the buttockes, and a couer for the basest part of a mans body no more then I, the greatest preheminance is in the garnishing and thereof you are proud, but come to the true ble we were appointed to, my honour is more then thine, for I belong to the old auncient peomanry, yea and Gentility, the fathers, and thou to a company of proud and unmannerly vpstarts the sonnes. At this, Ucluet braches stozmd and said. Why thou beggers bzatte descended from the reuerfion of base pouertie, is thy insolency so great to make comparison with mee, whose difference is as great as the brightnesse of the sonne and the slender light of the candle: I (poze snake) am sprung from the ancient Romans, hozne in Italy the mistrisse of the world for chualrie, cald into England from my natue home (where I was famous) to honour your country and young Gentlemen here in England with my countenance, where I am holden in high regards, that I canne presse into the presence when thou poze soule shalt with cap and knees beg leaue of the porter to enter, and I sit and dine with the Nobility, when thou art faine to waite for the reuerfion of the almes basket: I am admitted boldly to tel my tale, when thou art fain to sue by means
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of supplication, and that and thou too, so little regarded, that most commonly it neuer comes to the Princes hand, but dies imprisoned in some obscure pocket: Sith then ther is such difference betwixen our estates, cease to brge my patience with thy insolent presumption. Cloth breeches as breefe as hee was proud, stooze by the pike of his staffe, that his choplogicke was not worth a pinne, and that hee would turne his owne weapon into his bosome thus, *Ubi signo? Glorioso* (quoth he) though I haue not such glosing phrase to trick out my speeches withall as you yet I will come ouer your fallowes with this bad Rethoricke: I pray you Prounser malapart are you therefore my superiour, because you are taken vp with Gentlemen, and I with the yeomanry? Doth true vertue consist in riches, or humanity in welth? is auncient honoz tied to outward brauery? or not rather true Possibility, a minde excellently qualified with rare vertues? I will teach thee a lesson worth the hearing, proude princoks, howe Gentility first sprung vp, I will not forget the olde wises logick, when Adam delud and Eue spanne, who was then a Gentleman? but I tell thee after the generall flode that there was no moze men vpon the earth but Noe & his thre sonnes, and that Cham had wickedly discovered his fathers secrets then grew the diuision of estates thus: The church was figured in Sem, Gentility in Iapheth, and labour and vndergerie in Cham: Sem beeing chaste and holy, Iapheth learned and valiant, Cham churlish and seruile, yet did not the curse extend so farre vpon Cham, nor the blessing vpon Iapheth, but if the one altered his nature, & became either throued with learning or valour hee might bee a gentleman, or if the other degenerated from his auncient vertues, hee might bee held a pesant, wherupon Noe inferred that Gentility grew not onely by prepagation of nature, but by perfectio of quality. Then is your worship wide that boast of your worth for your golde & Pearle, sith *Cucullus non facit Monachum*, nor a Heluet stop make a flouen a Gentlemen: And whereas thou saiest thou wert bozne in Italy, & caled hether by our courtiers, him may wee curse that brought thee first into Englande, for thou camest not alone but accompanied with multitude of abhominable vices, hanging on thy bumbast nothing but infectious abuses, and vaine glozy, selfeloue, sodomie, and strange poisonings, wherewith thou hast infected this glorious Island, yea insolent bragert: thou hast defiled thine owne nest, and fatal was the day of thy birth, for since the time of thy hatching in Italy, as then

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famous for chivalrey and learning, the imperiall state thzough they
pride hath decayed, and thou hast like the younge Bellican peckt at
thy mothers bzeft with thy pzesumption, causing them to lose that
their fozefathers with true honour conquered, so hast thou beene the
ruine of the Romane Empire, and now fatally art thou come into
Englande to atempte heere the like subuersion. Whereas thou
doost boast that I am little regarded where thou art highly accounted
of, and hast sufferance to pzesse into the pzesence, when I am for my
simplicity shut out of doze, I grant thy alligation in part, but not in
whole, for men of high wisdome and honour measure not men by
the outward shewe of bzauery, but by the inward worth and honesty,
and so though I am disdained of a few ouerweening fooles, I am va-
lued as well as thy selfe with the wise. In that thou saiest thou canst
speake when I sue by supplication: I grant it, but the tale thou tellest
is to the ruine of the pooze, for comming into high fauour with an im-
pudent face, what farme is there expired, whose lease thou doest not
begge? what fozfeite of penall statutes? what consealed landes canne
ouerflip thee? yea rather then thy bzauery should faile begge potwling
pence for the very smooke that comes out of pooze mens chennies,
shamest thou not outlandish vpstart to heare me discourse thy imper-
fections, get the home againe into the owne country, and let mee as I
was wont liue famous in my native home in England where I was
borne and bred, yea, and bearded Caesar thy countryman till hee com-
pass the conquest by treason. The right and title in this country base
bzat (qd. belust bzeeches) now authority fauours mee, I am admitted
viceroy, & I will make thee do me homage, & confesse that thou holdst
thy being and residence in my land from the gracious fauour of my
sufferance, and with that hee laid hold on the hilts of his rapier, and
cloth bzeeches betooke him to his staff, when I stepping betwixt them
parted them thus. Why what meane ye? will you decide your con-
troversie by blowes, when you may debate it by reason, this is a
land of peace, gouerned by true iusticiaries & honozable magistrats,
where you shall haue equitie without parcialitie, and therefore listen
to me and discusse the matter by lawe, your quarell is, whether of you
are most antient and most worthy, you sir, boast of your country and
parentage, he of his native birth in England, you claime all, he would
haue but his owne, both plead an absolute title of residence in this
country, then must the course betweene you bee trespass or disseison

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of franke tenement, you Weluet-bzeeches in that you claime the first title you shall bee plaintiffe, and plead a trespasse of desseison doone you by Cloth-bzeeches, so that it bee bozught to a iurye, and tried by a verdict of twelue or four and twenty. Much, tush, quoth Weluet-bzeeches, I neither like to bee plaintiffe, nor yet allowe of a iury, for they may bee partiall, and so condemne mee in my owne action, for the country swaines cannot value of my worth nor can mine honours come within the compasse of their base wits, because I am a stranger in this land, & but here lately arined, they will hold me as an vpstart, & so lightly esteeme of my worthinesse, and for my aduersary is their countriman and lesse chargeable, hee shall haue the lawe mitigated, if a iury of hindes or pesaunts should bee inpanelled, if annient Gentlemen, yeomen, or plaine ministers should bee of the quest I were sure to lose the day because they loath mee, in that I haue perswaded so many landlozdes for the maintenance of my bzauerye to raise their rents. You seeke a knot in a rush (qd. I) you neede not doubt of that, for whome you distrust & thinke not indifferent, him you vpon a cause manifested, challenge from your iury. If your lawe allowe such large fauour (quoth Weluet bzeeches) I am content my title bee tried by a Jury, and therefore let mine aduersary plead mee Nul tort Nul disseison Cloth bzeeches was content with this, and so they both agreed I should bee indge and iuroz in this controuersie, whereupon I wisht them to say for themselves what they could, that I might discourse to the Jury what reasons they alledged of their Titles: then Weluet-bzeeches began thus. I cannot but greene that I should bee thus out-faest with a Carters weede onely fit for husbandry, seeing I am the originall of all honorable endeuours: to what end dooth youth bestow their witts on Lawe, Physick or Theologie, were it not the end they aime at, is the wearing of me and wining of pzeferment, Honoz norissheth Art, and for the regarde of dignity, doo learned men strue to excede in their faculty.

Impiger extremos currit Mercator ad indos,

Per mare, per saxa, &c.

What diues the Marchants to seeke fozen martes, to venter their goods and hazard their liues: not, if still the end of their trauell were a paire of Cloth bzeeches, no, Weluet, costly atire, curious and quaint apparell is the spur that pziketh them forward to attempt such daunger. Dooth not the Souldiours fight to bee bzauie, the Lawier study to

countenances

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countenance himself with cost, the artificer takes paines only for my sake that wearing mee he may brag it amongst the best, what credit carries hee now adayes that goes pind vp in a Cloth breech, who will keepe him company that thinkes well of himselfe, vnlesse hee vse the simple slaue to make cleane his shoue, the worlde is chaungde and men are growen to more witte, and their mindes to aspire after more honozable thoughts, they were Dunces in diebus illis, they had not the true vse of gentility, and therfore they liued meanelly and died obscurely, but now mennes capacities are refined, time hath set a new edge on gentlemens humors, and they shew them as they should be, not like gluttons as their fathers did, in chynes of beefe and almes to the poore, but in beluets, sattins, cloth of gold, pearle, yea pearle lace, which scarce Caligula wore on his birth day, and to this honourable humor haue I brought these gentlemen since I came from Italy, what is the end of seruice to a man, but to countenance himselfe and credite his maister with brane suites, the scurvy tapsters and ostlers sex populi fill pots, and rubbe horscholes, to pzancke themselues with my gloze, alas were it not to weare nic, why would so many apply themselves to extraordinary idlenesse? Beside, I make soles bee reuerent, and thought wise amongst the common sort, I am a seuerer sensor to such as offend the law, prouided there be a penalty annexed that may bringe in some profite, yea by mee the chæfest part of the realme is gouerned, and therfore I refer my title to the verdict of any mens iudgement. To this mildly Cloth breeches answered thus.

As I haue had alwaies that honest humor in mee to measure all estates by their vertues, not by their apparell, so did I neuer grudge at the brauery of any whom birth, time, place, or dignitie made worthy of such costly ornaments, but if by the fauour of their Prince and their owne desarts they merited them, I helde both lawfull and commendable to answer their degrees in apparell, correspondent vnto their dignities, I am not so precise directly to inueigh against the vse of beluet, either in breeches or in other sutes, nor will I haue men goe like Iohn Baptist, in coates of Camels hair. Let Princes haue their Diademes, and Caesar what is due to Caesar, let Noblemen goe as their birth requires, and Gentlemen as they are borne or beare office, I speake in mine owne defence, for the ancient Gentility and yeomandrie of Englande, and inueigh against none, but such malapart vpstart as raised vp from the Plough, or aduanced for their
Italian

an vpstart Courtier.

Italian deuises, or for their wittlesse wealth, couet in bzauery to match, nay to excēde the greatest Noblemen in this land.

But leauing this digression mounſier Heluet breeches, againe to the perticulers of your ſend allegation. Whereas you affirme your ſelfe to be both original and ſinall end of learning, alas proud pzincor you pzeach a bowe to hie, did all the Philoſophers beat their bzaines, and buſſie their wits to wear Heluet breeches. Why both at that time thou wert vnknowne, yea vnbozne, and all excelle in apparell had in high contempt, and now in theſe daies all men of worth, are taught by reading, that excelle is a great ſin, that pzide is the firſt ſtep to the downefall of ſhame. They ſtudy with Tully, that they may ſeeme bozne for their countryes as well as for themſelues. The Diuine to pzeach the Goſpell: the Lawier to reſorme wzonges and maintaine iuſtice, the Philoſition to diſcouer the ſecretes of Gods woonders, by wzorking ſtrange cures: to bee bzēſe, the end of all being, is to knowe God, and not as your worſhip god maiſter Heluet breeches wzells to czeep into acquaintance.

I will not denie, but there bee as fantaſticall ſooles as your ſelfe, that perhapes are puſt bp with ſuch pzesuming thoughts, and ambitiouſly aime to trick themſelues in your worſhips masking lutes, but while ſuch climbe for great honours, they often fall to great ſhames. It may bee thereupon you bzing in Honos Alit artes, but I geſſe your maiſterſhip neuer tried what true honour meant, that truſſe it bppe within the compaſſe of a paire of Heluet breeches, and place it in the arrogancy of the hart, no, no: ſay honoz is idolatry, for they make ſooles of themſelues, and Idols of their carcaſes: but he that valueth honour ſo, ſhall reade a lecture out of Apuleius golden Aſſe, to learne him moze wit. But now ſir by your leaue, a blowe with your next argument which is, that marchants hazard their goods and liues to be acquainted with your maiſterſhip. Indeed you are awzy for wiſe men frequent marts for pzofit not for pzide, vnleſſe it be ſome that by wearing of Heluet breeches and apparell too high for their calling, haue pzoued bankerouts in their youth, and haue bene glad in their age to deſire my acquaintance, and to truſſe bp their tailes in home ſpun ruſſet: whereas thou doſt obiect the valour of hardy Soldiers to grow for the deſire of bzauē apparell. This is falſe, and I knowe if any were pzesent, they would pzoue vpon thy bones that thou wert a lier: for their countries god, their pzinces ſeruice, the defence of their friends the hope of ſauour is the ſinall ende of their reſolutions: eſtēming not
only

A quippe for

only them but the worlds glozy, fickle, transitory & inconstant. Shall I fetch from thine own country, weapons to wound thy selfe withall. What saiest thou to Cincinnatus, was he not caled to be Dictator from the Plough, and after many victories, what did he let vp and do wne the court in costly garments and Meluet. breeches? No, he dispised dignitie, contemned vaine glozy and pride, and returned agayne to his quiet contented life in the country. How much did Caius Fabricius value their Numa pompilius, Sceuola, Scipio, Epaminodas, Aristides, they held themselves woymes meate, and counted pride vanity, and yet thou art not ashamed to say, thou art the ende of soldours worthy honoꝝ. I tell thee sawcy skipiack, it was a good and a blessed time heer in England, when K. Stephen wore a paire of cloth breeches of a Noble a paire, and thought them passing coslye, then did hee count Westminster hal to little to be his dining chamber & his almes was not bare bones, in stead of broken meat but lusty chines of beefe sel into the pooze mans basket. When charitie flozished in the Court, and young Courtiers stroue to exceede one an other in vertue, not in bzauerie: they rode not with fans to ward their faces from the wind, but with Burgants to resist the stroke of a Battlere, they could then better exhort a soldioꝝ to armoꝝ then court a Lady with amozets, they caused the Trumpette to sound them pointes of warre, not Poets to write them wantō Eligies of loue, they sought after honoꝝable fame, but hunted not after fading honoꝝ: which distinction by the way take thus. There bee some that seeke honoꝝ, and some are sought after by honoꝝ. Such bystarts as fetch their pedigree from their fathers ancient leather apzon, and creep into the Court with great humility, ready at the first Basciare li piedi di la vostra signioria hauing gotten the countenance of some Nobleman, will strait be a kindzed to Cadwal-ler, and sweare his great grand mother was one of the Burgessees of the parliament house, will at last steale by degrees into some credite by their double diligence, and then winde some wooshipfull place as far as a hungry sow can smell a fir reuerence, and then with all their friends seeke day and night with coyne and countenance til they haue got it. Others there be whome honoꝝ it selfe seekes, and such bee they whome vertue doth frame fit soꝝ that purpose, that rising by high desarts, as learning, oꝝ valour, merite moze then eyther they looke foꝝ, oꝝ their pꝛince hath anye ease conueniently to bestowe on them. Such honoꝝ seekes & they with a blushing conscience entertain him, be they
neuer

an vpstart Courtier.

neuer so high in fauour, yet they beg no office, as the shamelesse vpstart doth, that hath a hungry eie to spie out, an impudent face to sue, and a flatering toong to intreat for some void place of worship, which litle belonged to them, if the prince intended to bestow offices for vertue not fauour. Other such beluet breeches there be of your crue: that pinch their bellies to polish their backs, that keepe their matwes empty, to fill their purses that haue no shewe of gentility but a weluet stop, who by pouling or selling of land that their fathers leste will bestowe all to buy an office about the court that they may be worshipfull, extorting from the pooze, to raise vpp their money that the base deceiuing companions haue laid out to haue an office of some countenance and credite, wherein they may haue of mee better then themselves, be rearmed by the name of worship. The last whome vertue pleadeth for, and neither siluer, gold, frendes, nor fauour aduanceth be men of great worth, such as are thought of worship, and vnwillingly entertaine her, rather vouchsafing profered honoz for their countries cause, then for any proud opinion of hoped for preferment.

Blessed are such landes, whose officers are so placed, and where the Prince promoteth not for coine nor countenance, but for his worthy deseruing vertues. But leauing this by talke, me thought I heard you say Signior beluet breeches, that you were the father of mechanickall Artes, and handicraftes were found out to foster your brauery. In faith Goodman golescape, you that are come from the start vps, and therfore is called an vpstart, quasi start vp from clowted shone, your lips hange in your light. When you brought forth this Logicke: for I hope there is none so simple, but knowes that handicraftes and occupations grew for necessity, not pride: that mens inuentions waxed sharpe to profite the common wealth, not to pranke vp themselves in brauery, I pray you when Tubalcane inuented tempzing of metals had he weluet breeches to weare? In sadnesse, where was your worship when his brother found out the accordes and discordes of musicke hidden in hell, and not yet thought on by the Deuill, to cast forth as a baite to bring many proud sooles to ruine?

Indeed I cannot denie, but your worship hath brought in deceit as a iourney man into all companies, & made that a subtil craft, which while I was holden in esteeme was but a simple miserie: now every trade hath his sleighes, to stubber vp his worke to the eie, and to make it good to the sale, howsoeuer it pzooues in the wearinge,

A quippe for

The shoemaker cares not if his shoes hold the drawing on: the tailor sewes with hot needle and burnt thred. The pride hath banished conscience, and Helvet breaches honestie, and every servile Judge must ruffle in his likes, or else he is not suteable.

The world was not so A principio, for when velvet was worn but in kinges caps, then conscience was not a brome man in Kent street but a Courtier, then the farmer was content his sonne should hold the plough, and live as he had done before: Beggars then feared to aspire, and the higher sort scorned to envie. Now every lowt must haue his sonne a Courtroll, and those dunghill drudges were so proud, that they wil presume to wear on their feet, what kings haue worn on their heaves. A clownes sonne must be clapt in a velvet pantophle, and a velvet breach, though by presumptions as he is shown in the Mercers booke, & make a convey of all his lands to the vsurer for commodities: yea the soper must goe like a gallant for a while, although at last in his age hee begges. But indeede, such young youths when the broker hath blest them with sainte Needams crosse, fall then to priuy listes and coseneages, and when their credit is utterly crackt, they practise some bad shift, and so come to a shamefull ende

Lastly, whereas thou saist thou art a seuerer censour to punish sins, as austere as Caro to correct vice, of truth I hold thee so in penal statutes when thou hast begged the forseite of the Prince: but such correction is open extortion and oppression of the poore, nor can I compare it better to velvet breach, then to the wolfe chastising the lambe for disturbing their fountains, or the Deuill casting out Demilles, through the power of Belzebub, and thus much courteous sir I haue said, to display the follies of mine aduersary, and to shewe the right of mine owne intrest. Whye then quoth I, if you haue both saide, it resteth but that wee hadde some to empanell vpon a Jury, and then no doubt but the verdict would soone bee given on one side. As thus I was talking to them, I might see comming downe the hill a brane dapper Dicke, quaintly attired in velvet and sattin, and a cloake of cloth rash, with a cambzicke ruffe as smoothly set, and he as neatly spüged, as if he had been a bridgrome, only I gess by his pace a farre off he should be a Tailor, his head was holden vpper so pert, and his legges shackle hand, as if his knees had beene laced to his thighes with points. Comming moze neere indeed I spied a Tailors moze pike on his best, a spanish needle, and then I fitted my salutations,
not

an vpstart Courtier.

not to his lufes but to his trade, and incountred him by a threed bare courtesie, as if I had not knowne him, and asked him of what occupation he was? A Taylor, quoth he, marry then my freend, quoth I, you are the moze welcome, for heere is a greate quarrell growne betwixt veluet breeches and cloth breeches, for their prerogative in England: the matter is growne to an issue, ther must a Jury be empannelled, and I would desire and intreat you to be one of the quest.

Not so, quoth cloth breeches I challenge him. And why quoth I? What reason haue you, doth he not make them both? yes, quoth hee, but his gaines is not a like: alas, by me hee getteth small, onely hee is paid for his workmanship, vnlesse by misfortune his shieres slip away, and then his bailes is but a shred of homespunne cloth: where as in makinge of veluet breeches, where there is required silke lace, cloth of golde, of siluer, and such costly stuffe, to welte, garde, whippitch, edge, face, and draw out, that the bales of one veluet breeche, is moze then twenty payre of mine. I hope there is no Taylor so precise but he can play the cooke and lick his owne fingers: though he looke vp to Heauen, yet hee can cast large shreds of such rich stuffe into hell vnder his shop boord. Besides, hee setteth downe like the clarke of the Cheeke a large bill of reckonings, which for hee keepes longe in his pocket he so powders for stinking, that the yong vpstart that needes it, feels it salt in his stomack a month after. Beside sir veluet breeches hath aduansed him: for whereas in my time he was counted but goodman Taylor, now hee is growne since veluet breeches came in, to bee called a marchant or Gentleman Marchant Taylor, geuinge armes and the holy Lambe in his creast, where before hee had no other cognisance, but a plaine spanish needle with a welsh cricket on the top: Alth then his gaine is so greate and his honour so aduansed by veluet breeches. I will not trust his conscience, nor shall he come vppon my Jury.

Indeed you haue some reason quoth I, but perhaps the Taylor doth this vpon meer deuotion to punish pride, and hauing no other authority nor meane, thinkes it best to pinche them by the purse, and make them pay well, as to aske twise so much silke lace and other stuffe as would suffice, and yet to ouer reach my yong maister with a bill of reckoning that will make him scratche where it itcheth not. Heerein I hold the Taylor for a necessary member to teach yonge nouices the way to weeping crosse: that when they haue walked what their fa-

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thers leste them by pride, they may grow sparing and humble, by inferred pouerty: & by this reason, the Tailor plaies Gods part: hee exalteth the poore and pulleth downe the proud: so of a wealthy esquieres sonne, hee makes a thredbare begger: and of a scornefull Tailor, hee lests by an vpstart scurvy Gentleman. Yet seeing you haue made a reasonable challenge to him, the Tailor shall bee none of the quest.

As I had him stand by there was comming alongst the balley towards vs, a square set fellow well fed, and as briskly apparelled, in a black taffata doublet and a spruce leather ierkin, with Christall buttons: a cloake fast a foze with veluet, and a couentry cap of the finest wolle, his face somthing Ruby blush, Cherry cheeked, like a shred of scarlet or a little darker, like the lees of old claret wine: a nose autem nose purpled preciously with pearle & stone, like a counterfeit worke, and betwene the filthy reumicall of his bloudshoten snout, there appeared smale holes, whereat wormes heads peeped, as if they meant by their appearance to preach, and shewe the antienty and antiquity of his house.

This fiery fast churle had vpon his fingers as many goldzings, as would furnish a goldsmiths shop or beseme a pandor of long profession to weare, wondring what companion this should bee. I inquired of what occupation hee was: marry sir quoth hee a Broker, why do you aske, haue you any pawnes at my house? No quoth I, nor by the helpe of God neuer will haue: but the reason is to haue you vpon a Jury. At this word befoze I could enter my discourse vnto him Veluetbreches start vp, and swore hee should bee none of the quest, hee would challenge him, and why quoth I, what know you by him? This base churle is one of the moaths of the common wealth, hee is the spoile of young Gentlemen a bloud sucker of the poore, as thirsty as a horse leach that will neuer leaue drinking while hee burst, a knaue that hath intrest in the leases of foztie bawdy houses, a receiuer for lifts, and a dishonorable supporter of cutpurses, to conclude, hee was gotten by an Incubus a he Diuell, and brought forth by an overwozne refuse, that had spent her youth vnder the ruines of Wobbes Barne.

Monstrous inmedine, quoth I, what reason haue you to bee thus bitter against him? Oh the villaine, quoth hee, is the Diuels factor, sent from hell to torment young gentlemen vpon earth: he hath fetcht me ouer in his time, onely in pawnes, in ten thousand pound in gold suppose,

Suppose as Gentlemen through their liberall mindes may want that
 I need money: let mee come to him with a pawne worth ten pound,
 hee will not lend vpon it aboue thre pound, and hee will haue a bill of
 saile and twelue pence in the pound for euery month, so that it comes
 to sixteen pence, with the bill must monthly be renewed, and if you breake
 but your day, set downe in the bill of saile, your pawne is lost, as full
 bought & sold, you turnd out of your goods & he an vnconscionable gai-
 ner, suppose y^e best, you keepe your day, yet paying sixteen pence a month
 for twenty shillings, you pay as good for the lone as fower scoze in the
 hundzed, is not this monstrous exacting vpon Gentlemen. Beside
 the knaue will bee diligently attending and waiting at dicing houses
 where wee bee at play, and there hee is ready to lend the looser money
 vpon rings, and chaines, apparell or any other good pawne, but the
 poore Gentleman paies so deere for the lauender it is laid vp in, that if
 it lie long at a Brokers house hee seemes to buy his apparell twise: nay
 this worme eaten wretch hath deeper pitfalls yet to intrap youth in,
 for hee being acquainted with a young Gentleman of faire liuing, in
 issue of good parents or assured possibility, sooths him in his monstrous
 expences and saies hee carries the minde of a Gentleman, promising
 if hee want hee shall not lack for a hundzed pounds or two, if the Gen-
 tleman need, then hath my Broker an vsurer at hand as ill as himself,
 and hee brings the money, but they tie the poore soule in such Darbies
 bandes, what with receiuing ill commodities and forfeitures vpon
 the bande, that they dub him sir John had lande before they leaue him,
 and share like wolues the poore nouices wealth betwixt them as a
 pray, hee is (sir) to bee breefe a bolwse halwy miser, good for none but
 himselfe and his frug, a carle that hath a filthy carcasse without a con-
 science, a body of a man wherein an infernall spirit in stead of a soule
 doth inhabit, the seum of the seven deadly sins, an enemy to all good
 mindes, a deuourer of young gentlemen, and to conclude my mostall
 enemy and therefore admit of my challenge, and let him be none of the
 iury. Truly (qd. Clothbatches) and I am willing he should be discar-
 ded too, for were not bad brokers (I will not condemne all) there would
 bee lesse filching & fewer theues, for they receiue all is brought them,
 and buy that for a Crowne that is worth twenty shillings, desire of
 gaine blindes their conscience and they care not how it bee come by,
 so they buy it cheape. Beside they extort vpon the poore that are inforced
 through

A quippe for

thzough extreame want to patwne their cloathes and houtholde stufte, their pewter and brasse, and if the pooze soules that labour hard misse but a day, the base minded broker takes the sozseite without remozse oz pittie, it was not so in Diebus illis, but thou pzoud bpstart Beluett bzèches hast leard all Englishmen their villany, and all to maine-
taine thy bzauery: yea, I haue knowne of late when a pooze wo-
man laide a siluer thimble that was sent her from her friends soz a to-
ke to patwne soz six pence, & the broker made her pay a halfpenny a week
soz it, which comes to two shillings a yere, soz six pence: sith then hys
conscience is so bad, let him be shuffled out amongst the knaues soz a
discarding card, Content qd. I, and bad the broker stand backe, when
there were euen at my heeles thze in a cluster pert youthes all, and
neatly tired, I questioned them what they were, and the one sayd hee
was a barber, the other a surgion, and the third an Apoticary. How
like you of these (qd, I) shall they be 'of your iury? Of the iury, quoth
Cloth-bzèches neuer a one by my consent, soz I challenge them all:
your reason qd. I, and then you shall haue my verdict. Parry (qd Cloth
bzèches) first to the barber he cannot be but a partiall man on beluett
bzèches side, sith he gets moze by one time dzessinge of him, than by
ten times dzessing of me, I come plaine to be polde, and to haue my
heard cut, and pay him two pence, beluett bzèches he sittes downe in
the chaire wzappt in fine cloathes, as though the barber were about to
make him a footcloth soz the vicar of saint fooles, the begins he to take
his sissars in his hand and his combe, and so to snap with them as if he
meant to giue a warming to all the lice in his nittye lockes soz to pre-
pare themselves, soz the day of their destruction was at hande, then
comes he out with his sustian eloquence & making a low conge, saith,
Sir will you haue your wo3 haire cut after the Italian maner, shozte
and round, and then frounst with the curling yzons, to make it looke
like a halfe moone in a mist: oz like a spanyard long at the eares, and
curled like to the two endes of an olde cast perriwig, oz will you bee
Frenched with a loue locke downe to your shoulders, wherein you
may weare your mistresse fauour? the English cut is base and gentle-
men scozne it, nouelty is daintye, speake the woozd sir, my sissars are
ready to execute your wo3ships wil. His head being once dzest, which
requires in combing and rubbing some two howers, hee comes to the
bason, then beeing curiously washt with no woozle then a camphire
bal, he descends as low as his berd, and asketh whether he please to be
shauen

an vpstart Courtier.

haue 02 no, whether he will haue his peak cut short & sharpe, amia-
 ble like an inamorato 02 broad pendāt like a spade, to be terrible like
 a warrio2 & a Soldado, whether he wil haue his crates cut low like a
 Juniperbush, 02 his suberches takē away with a raso2, if it be his plea-
 sure to haue his appendices prind, 02 his mustachios fostered to turn
 about his eares like h branches of a vine, 02 cut down to h lip with h
 Italian lath, to make him loke like a halfe faced bauby in bias. These
 quaint tearines Barber you grēt maister veluet breeches withall, &
 at euery word a snap with your fustons, and a cring with your knee,
 whereas when you come to pwee Clothbreeches you either cutte his
 beard at your owne pleasure, 02 else in disdaine aske him if he wil be
 trimd with Christs cut, round like the halfe of a holland cheese, mock-
 ing both Christ and vs: for this your knauerie my wil is you shall be
 none of the iurie. For you maister surgion, the statutes of England
 exempts you from being of any quest, and besides, alas, I seldome fall
 into your hands as being quiet & making no b2awls to haue wounds.
 as swartrutting beluethbreeches doth, neither doe I frequent whoze-
 houses to catch the Parbles, and soe to grow your patient, I knowe
 you not, and therefore I appeale to the statute, you shal haue nothing
 to doe with my matter. And for you M. Apoticarie, alas, I looke not
 once in seven yeare into your shop, without it be to buy a penitworth
 of wormeslād to giue my child to drinke, 02 a little triacle to drine out
 the measels, 02 perhaps some dregs and powders to make my sicke
 horse a drench withall, but for my selfe, if I be il at ease, I take Kit-
 chin phisicke, I make my wife my Doctor, and my garden my Apo-
 ticaries shop, whereas queasie maister veluet breeches cannot haue a
 fart awoye, but he must haue his purgations, pills, and glisters, 02 e-
 uacuate by electuaries, he must if the lest spot of morpheue come on his
 face, haue his oyle of Tartar, his Lac virginis, his camphire dissolved
 in veriuce, to make the foole as faire forsooth, as if he were to playe
 Maidmarian in a Maygame 02 Moril-daunce, tush he cannot digest
 his meate without cōserues, nor end his meale without suckats, nor
 (shall I speake plainly) please the trug his mistres without he gos
 to the Apothecaries, for Cringion, Oleum formicarum alatarum &
 aqua mirabilis of ten pound a pint, if maister veluet breeches with drin-
 king these drugs hap to haue a stinking breath, then forsoeth the Apo-
 ticarie must play the perfumer to make it sweet, nay what is it about
 him that he blameth not nature for framing, and formeth it a new by
 art,

A quippe for

art, and in all this who but mounſter the Apolicary, therfore good ſir (quoth he) ſeing you haue taken vpon you to be trioꝝ foꝝ the challenges, let thoſe thꝛee as partial companions be packing. Why (qd. I) ſeing you haue yeldded ſuch reaſon of refusall, let them ſtand by: preſently looking about foꝝ moꝝe, comes ſtalking down an aged grand ſir in a blacke velvet coat and a blacke cloath golwne welted and faced, and after him as I ſuppoſed foure ſeruing men, the moſt il fauoured knaues me thought that euer I ſawe, one of them had a buſſe leather ierkin all greaſie befoꝝe with the droppings of beere that fell from his beard, and by his ſide a ſkeine like a Bꝛeuers boung knife, and muffled he was in a cloake turnd ouer his noſe, as though he had beene aſhamed to ſhewe his face. The ſecond had a belly like a buckingtub, & a thꝛeed bare blacke coat vnboſtond befoꝝe vpon the bꝛeſt, whereon the map of dzunkenneſſe was dzawne, with the baldy and bolſſie excrementes that dzopt from his filthy leaking month. The thirde was a long leane old ſlaueing ſlangrell with a bzafell ſtaffe in the one hand, and a whipcoꝝd in the other, ſo pourblind that hee had like to haue ſtumbled vpon the company befoꝝe he ſaw them. The fourth was a fat chuffe, with a ſower looke, in a blacke cloke faced with taſſata, and by his ſide a great ſide pouch like a ſaulkner, foꝝ their faces all foure ſeemed to be bzethezen, they were ſo bumbatteſt with the ſtockes of ſtrong beere, and lined with the lees of old ſacke, that they lookte like foure blowne bladers painted ouer with redde oaker, oꝝ waſht ouer with the ſuds of an old ſtale dye. All theſe, as well the maiſter as the following mates would haue paſt away, but that I ſtept befoꝝe them & inquired firſt of the foꝝmoſt what he was, Mary qd. he, a Lawier, then ſir qd. I, we haue a matter in controuerſie that requireth counſaile, & you are the moꝝe welcome. What is it qd. he Mary ſaid I, whether Cloth bzeeches oꝝ velvet bzeeches are of moꝝe woꝝth, and which of them haſt the beſt title to bee reſident in England? At this the lawier ſmild, and velvet bzeeches ſtepping foꝝth tooke acquaintance of him, and commendng his honeſtpe, ſaid ther could not be a man of better indifferency of the iury: when cloth bzeeches ſtepping in ſwoꝝe he marvelled hee was not as well as the Surgion exempted by act of parliament from being of any queſt, ſith as the ſurgion was without pittie, ſo he was without conſcience, and therebpon inferd his challenge, ſaieing the Lawyer was neuer friend to clothbzeeches, foꝝ when lowlineſſe, neighbourhoood, and hoſpitality lined

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lined in England, Westminster hall was a dining chamber not a den of controuersies, when the king himselfe was content to keepe his. *George* day in a plaine paire of Kerse hose, when the Duke, Earle, Lord, Knight Gentleman and Esquire, aimed at vertue, not at pride, and wore such breeches as was spun in his house. then the lawier was a simple man, and in the highest degree was but a bare scriuener, except Judges of the land which tooke in hand serious matters, as treasons, murders, felonies and such capitall offences, but sildome was there any pleas put in befoze that proud vpstart Velvet-breeches, for his maintenaunce inuented strange controuersies, and since hee began to dominie in England, hee hath buid such a proud busie couetous and intrenching humoꝝ into euery mans head, that lawiers are growen to bee one of the cheefe lims of the commonwealth, for they doe now adates de lana caprina taxare, go to law if a Hen to but scrape in his Orchard, but howsoeuer right bee, might carries awaie the verdict: if a poore man sue a Gentleman, why hee stotes vp to the skie, and the arrow fales on his owne head, howsoeuer the cause go the weakest is thrust to the wall, Lawiers are troubled with the heate of the liver, which makes the palms of their hands so hot that they cannot be cold vnlesse they bee rubbd with the oyle of angels, but the poore man that giues but his bare fee, or perhaps pleads in forma pauperis, hee hunteth for hares with a taber, and gropeth in the darke to find a needle in a bottle of hay, tush these Lawiers haue such delatoꝝ & frozen pleas such dozmers, such quibs and quidits, that beggering their Clyents, they purchase to themselves whole lordships, it booteth not men to discourse their little conscience, and great extortion, only suffice they bee not so rich as they bee bad, and yet they bee but too wealthy. I intiegh not against law nor honest lawiers, for there be some well qualified, but against extorting Ambodexters that wozing the poore, & because I know not whether this bee such a one or no, I challeng him not to bee of my iury. Why then qd. I, his worshop may depart, & then I questioned what hee in the buff ierkin was, marry qd. he, I am a serieant, hee had no sooner said so, but velvet-breeches leapt back, & drawing his rapier, swore he did not only challenge him for his iury, but also protest, ed if he stirred one foot towards him, hee would make him eate a pece of his poinard. And what is the reason qd. I, that there is such moztall hatred betwixt you and the serieant? Oh sir qd. velvetbreeches, search him, & I warrant you I knowe hath precept vpon precept to arrest me,

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hath woꝛne his mace smooth, with onely clapping it vpon my shoul-
der, hee hath had me vnder coram so often, oh that reprobate is the
vserers executioner, to bzing such Gentlemen to Limbo, as he hath
ouertowne with his base bꝛocage and bad commodities: and as you
see him a fat knaue with a foggie face, wherein a cup of old sack hath
set a scale, to marke the bolwlie drunkard to dye of the dꝛoply, so his
conscience is consumed, & his hart robd of al remorse & pity, that for
mony he wil betray his own father, for wil a cozmozant but see him
to arrest a yong Gentleman, the rakehell wil be so eager to catch him,
as a dog to take a beare by the eares in Parish-garden, and when he
hath laid hold vpon him, he vseth him as curteously as a butchers cur
would do an ore cheeke, when he is hungry, if hee see the Gentleman
hath mony in his purse, then straight with a cap and knée he carries
him to the tauerne, and bids him send for some of his frendes to bale
him, but first he couenāts to haue some bꝛase of angels for his paines,
and besides he cals in for wine as greedily, as if the knaues mother
had been bꝛocht against a hogshhead when he was begotten, but sup-
pose the Gentleman wants pence, he wil either haue a pawne or else
dꝛige him to the counter, without respect of manhood or honestye, I
should spend the whole day with displaying his villanies, therefore
bꝛeely let this suffice, he was neuer made by the consent of God, but
his shouenly carcase was fraimd by the Diuell, of the rotten carian of
a wolfe, and his soule of an vsurers damned ghost turnd out of hell,
into his body to do monstrous wickednesse againe vpon the earth, so
that he shal be none of my iury, neither shal he come nearer me then
the length of my rapier will suffer him. Indeede qd. Cloth bꝛeethes
generally serieantes be bad, but there be amongst them some honest
men, that will do their duties with lawfull fauour: for to say truth, if
serieants were not, how should men come by their debts (may they
are so cruel in their office, that if they arrest a poore man, they will
not suffer him (if hee hath no mony) to stay a quarter of an houre to
talke with his creditoꝝ, although perhaps at the meeting they might
take composition, but only to the counter with him vnles he will lay
his pewter, bꝛasse, couerlets, sheets, or such householdstufte, to them
for pawne of payment of some coine for their staying: therefore let
him depart out of this place, for his roome is better then his company.

Well then quoth I, what say you to these thꝛee, and with that I
questioned their names, the one said hee was a Sumner, the other

a Gaoler, and the third an Infourmer: Iesus blesse me (quoth Cloth
bryches) what a Bing w as heere gathered together, no doubt Wel is
broke loose, and the Diuel meanes to kepe holiday, I make challeng
against them al, as against woyle men than those that gaue euidence
against Chyist: for the Sumner it bootes me to say little moze against
him, then Chaucer did in his Canturbury tales, who said hee was a
knaue, a byber and a batard, but leauing that authority although it be
authentically, yet thus much I can say of my selfe, that these drunken
dysolp sonnes go a tooting abroad (as they themselves term it) which
is to heare if any man hath got his maid with child oz plaies the good
fellow with his neighbours wife, if he finde a hole in any mans coate
that is of wealth, then he hath his peremtozy scitation ready to scite
him to the Archdeacons oz officials court, there to apere and abide
the shame & penalty of the law, the man perhaps in good credit with
his neighbours, loath to bying his name in question, greseth the sum-
ner in the fist, and then he wipes him out of the booke, and suffers him
to get twenty with child, so he keepe him warme in the hand: he hath
a saying to wanton wiues, & they are his good daines, and as long as
they feede him with cheere, bacon, capons & such od reuerfios, they are
honest, and be they neuer so bad, he swears to the official, complaints
are made vpon enuy, and the women of good behauiour: tush what
batwory is it he wil not suffer, so he may haue mony and good cheere,
and if he like the wench well a snatch himsele, for they know all the
whozes in a country, & are as lecherous companions as may be, to be
bryefe, the sumner liues vpon the sins of people, & out of harlatry gets
he all his commodity, As for the Gaoler, although I haue bene little
troubled in prison to haue experience of his knauery, yet I haue heard
the poore prisoners complaine how cruell they be to them, extorting
with extraordinary fees, selling a dable curtall (as they call it) with
a dable ing of beere for 2 pence, which containes not aboue a pint &
a halfe: let a poore mā be arrested into one of the counters, though he
but set his foot in the but halfe an hour, he shal be almost at an āgels
charge, what with garnish, crossing and wiping out of the booke,
turning the key, paying the chamberleine, fixing for his Jury, and
twenty such extortions invented by themselves, and not allowed by
any statute, God bles me gaoler from your henhouses, as I wil keepe
you for comming on my quest, and to you M. Infourmer, you that
looke like a ciuill Cieizen, oz some handsome petty-fogger of the law:

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although your crimson nose bewrayes you can sup of a coole cup of sack without any chewing, yet haue you as much fly knavery in your side pouch there, as would breed the confusion of forty honest men.

It may bee fit you maruell why I exclaime against the Informer sith hee is a most necessary member in the common wealth, and is highly to the Princes aduantage for the benifit of pennall statutes and other abuses, whereof he giueth speciall inteligençe: To wipe out this doubt, I speake not against the Office but the Officer, against such as abuse lawe when they should vse it, and such a one I gesse this fellowe to bee, by the carnation tincture of his ruby nose. Therefore let vs search his bagge, and see what trash you shall finde in it: with that although the Infourmer were very loath, yet wee pluckt out the stuffing of his pouch, and in it was found a hundred & od wittes: Whereat I woundred: and Cloth breeches smiling bad mee read the Labels, and the parties names, and then examine the Infourmer how many of them he knewe, and wherein they had offended, I followed his counsaile, and of al he knew but thre neither could he tel what they had done amisse to bee arrested, and brought in question.

Cloth breeches seeing mee stand in a mase, began thus to resolute mee in my doubt, perhaps. quoth hee, you maruell why the Infourmer hath all these wittes, and knowes neither the parties nor can obiect any offence to them: To this I answered: that it being a long vacation, hee learned in the rolles all those mens names, and that they were men of indifferent wealth: Now meanes hee to go abroad and search them out and arrest them, and though they knewe not wherein, or for what cause they shoulde bee troubled, yet rather then they will come vp to London and spend their money, they will bestow some od Angell vpon maister Infourmer, and so sit at home in quiet. But suppose some be so stubborne as to stand to the triall, yet can this cunning knave declare a Tamquam against them, so that though they be cleared, yet can they haue no recompence at all, for that he doth it in the courts behalfe. I wil not vnfold al his villanies but he is an abuser of good lawes and a very knave, and so let him be with his fellows. I both woundred and laught to heare Clothbreeches make this discourse, when I saue two in the bally together by the eares, the one in leather, the other as blacke as the Diuell: I stept to them to part the fraie, and questioned what they were, and wherefore they
bawled:

bzailed: Harry quoth hee, that lookte like Lucifer, though I am blacke I am not the Diuell, but indeed a Collier of Croiden, and one fir that haue sold many a man a false sack of coales, that both wanted measure, and was halfe full of dust and drosse.

Indeed I haue been a Lieger in my time in London, & haue plaied many mad pranches, for which cause, you may apparantly see I am made a curtal, for the Pilloze (in the sight of a great many good and sufficient witnesses) hath eaten off both mine eares, and now fir this Kopenmaker hunteth mee heere with his halters, I gesse him to bee some enill spirit, that in the likenesse of a man, would since I haue past the Pilloze, perswade me to hange my selfe for my old offences, and therefore sith I cannot blesse me from him with Nomine patris, I lay Spiritus Sanctus about his shoulders, with a good crab-tree cud-gell, that he may get him out of my company.

The Kopenmaker replied, that honestly iourneying by the way he acquainted himselfe with the Collier, and for no other cause pretended. Honest with the Diuell, quoth the Collier, howe can he be honest, whose mother I gesse was a witch, for I haue heard them say, that witches say their praiers backward, and so doth the Kopenmaker yearne his lining by going backward, & the knowes therse lining is by making fatall instruments, as halters and ropes, which diuers desperate men hang themselves with. Well quoth I, what say you to these, shall they be on the Jury? Heluet breeches said nothing, but Cloth breeches said, in the Kopenmaker he found no great falshood in him, therefore hee was willing he should bee one, but for the Collier hee thought it necessary, that as he came so he should depart, so then I bad the Kopenmaker stand by till more came, which was not long, for there came thre in a cluster. As soone as they due nie, I spied one a fat charle with a side russet coate to his knee, and his handes all tanned with shifting his Duse, yet woulde I not take notice what they were, but questioned with them of their seuerall occupations. Harry quoth the first, I am a tanner, the second a shomaker, and the third a Currier: then turning to the Plaintife and Defendant, I asked them if they would allowe of those parties. So by my faith quoth Cloth breeches, I make challenge to them all. and I will yeld reasons of import against them: and first to you maister Tanner, are you a man worthy to be of a Jury, when your conscience cares not to wzonge the whole common-wealth, you respect not publike commodity

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comodity, but priuate gaines: not to benefit your neighbour, but for to make the proude princere your sonne an vpstart Gentleman, and because you would marry your daughter, at the least to an Esquire that shee may if it be possible, be a Gentlewoman, & how comes this to passe? by your tanne-fats for sooth: for, whereas by the anciente lawes and statutes of England, you should let a hide lye in the Dule at the least nine moneths, you can make good leather of it before three moneths, you haue your Dones done, your Harle, your Ashen bathe and a thousand thinges more, to bring on your Leather apace, that it is so badly Tanned, that when it comes to the weatinge, then it flates away like a peece of browne paper: and whereas your backs of all other should be the best tanned, you bring them so full of hozne to the market, that did you not grease the sealers of Leaden Hall throughly in the fist, they should neuer bee sealed, but turned away and made forstiet by the statute. I cannot at large lay open your subtil practises, to beguile the pooze communalty with bad leather. But let this suffice, you leaue no villanie vsought, to bring the block head your sonne to go before the Clowne his father trimely trickt vp in a paire of beluet breeches.

Now maister Currier to your coosenage, you cannot bee content onely to burne the leather you dresse for fault of liquoz, because you would make the shoemaker pay well and you put in little stuffe: and besides, when as in backs you should onely put in Tallow hard and good, you put in softe kitchenstufte mixt, and so make the good and well tanned Leather by your villany to flæt and wast away, but also you grow to bee an extorting knaue, and a forstaller of the market, for you will buy leather sides, backs, and Calue skines, and sel them to the pooze shoemakers at an vnreasonable rate, by your false retaylinge, getting infinite goods by that excessive price: both vndoing the pooze shoemaker, and causing vs that we pay extreamely for shooes, For if the Currier bought not Leather by the whole of the Tanner, the shoemaker might haue it at a more reasonable price: but the shoemaker being poore, is not perhaps able to deale with a dicker of hides nor perhaps with a cuple of basks, and the Tanner will not trust him: then the extorting and coosening Currier comes vp with this, I will lend you for a day and so pincheth him, that hee is scarce able to finde his children bread.

But well hath the Prince and the honourable Lords of the priuie counsaile

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counsaile pꝛouided by an act of Parliament, that no Currier shall buy leather either backs or hides of the Tanner, so to bꝛidle the extorting and foꝛestalling cooſenage, but crafftlier and subteller hath the knaue Currier croſsbitten the ſtatute, in that he deales thus with the Tanner, he makes him hold his leather vnreaſonably to the ſhoomaker, and ſo when he cannot ſell it, he laies it vp in the Curriers houſe, vnder a colour whereas in deed he hath ſold it him.

Suppoſe this ſhift be ſpied and pꝛeuented: then compoundeth hee with ſome knaue ſhoomaker, ſome baſe rakehell without a conſcience, that neither reſpecteth God, the commonwealth, nor his company, and foꝛſooth he is haile with the Currier, who letteth him haue ſome hundred marke, to laye out foꝛ leather euery moneth, whereas hee ſpendes not in his ſhop a hundred markes worth in a yeare: ſo the ſhoomaker buies it to abuſe the ſtatute foꝛ the Currier, and the Currier by that meanes vndermeth the other ſhoomakers: thus two crafty knaues are met and they neede no broker.

Now to you gentle craſte, you maſſe ſhoomakers: you can putt in the inner ſole, of a thin Calues ſkin, when as the ſho is a neates leather ſhoe, which you know is cleane contrary both to conſcience and the ſtatute. Beſide, you will ioine a neates leather vampy to a calues leather heele: is not heere good ſtuffe maſter ſhoomaker? Well ſoꝛ your knauery, you ſhall haue thoſe curſes which belongs vnto your craft: you ſhall be lighte footed to trauell far, lighte witted vpon euery ſmall occaſion to geue your maſter the bagge, you ſhall be moſt of you vnthꝛiſts and almoſt all perfect goodfellows. Beſide I remember a merry ieſt how Mercury brought you to a dangerous diſeaſe, foꝛ he requelled a boone foꝛ you, which ſell out to your greate diſaduantage, and to recreate vs heere a little gentle craſte, what ſell to your trade by that winged God. As it happened on a time that Iupiter and Mercury trauellinge together vpon earth, Mercury was wonderfully hungry and had no money in his purſe to buy him any ſode, and at laſte to his greate comfoꝛte hee ſpied where a company of Tayloꝛs were at Dinner with buttred peale, eatinge their peale with theyꝛ needels pointes, one by one: Mercury came to them and asked them his almes, they pꝛoudly bad him ſit downe, and doo as hee ſaw they did, and with that deliuered him a needle. The pooze God beinge paſſing hungry, could not content his maw with eatinge one by one, but turned the eie of the needle and ate two or thꝛee together: which
the

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the Tailors seeing, they start vp and said, what fellow a showell and aspaede, to buttred pease, hast thou no more manners, get out of our company and so they sent him packing with many stroakes.

Mercury comming back, Iupiter demaunded of him what newes: and hee told him how charlishly hee was vsed amongst the Tailors, well, wandring on further, Mercury espied where a company of shoemakers were at dinner with powdered beefe and bzetwelle, going to them before hee could aske them any almes, they sayd, welcome good fellow, what is thy stomack vp, wilt thou doe as wee doe, and tast of beefe, Mercury thanked them and sat downe and ate his belly full, and dranke well of good double beere, and when hee had done went home to his master.

Asone as hee came Iupiter asked him what newes and hee said: I haue lighted amongst a crue of shoemakers, the best fellows that euer I met with all, they haue frankly fed mee without grudging, and therefore graunt mee a boone for them.

Aske what thou wilt Mercury, quoth hee and it shall be done, why then quoth hee, graunt that for this good turne they haue done mee, they may euer spend a groat afoze they can yearne two pence, it shall be graunted quoth hee.

Mercury asone as Iupiter had said the word, hee bethought himself and sayd: nay but that they may yearne a groat afoze they spend two pence, for my tongue slipt at the first, well, Mercury quoth hee, it cannot be recald the first wish must stand, and hereof by Mercurys boone it grew that all the Gentle craft are such good fellows and spendethistes. But howsoeuer, none of those thre, neither Shoemaker, tanner, nor Currier, shall bee accepted to be of the iury.

As they went away with seas in their ears, being thus fanted by Clothbraches, wa might see where there came a troupe of ancient Gentlemen, with their seruingmen attending vpon them. The foremost was a great old man, with a white beard all in russet, and a faire black cloake on his back, and attending vpon him some five men, their cognisance as I remember was a peacock without a taile, the other two that accompanied him, seemed meaner then himselfe. But yet Gentlemen of good worship, whereupon I went towards them & saluted them, and was so bould as to question what they were and of their businesse. The most ancientest answered hee was a knight, and those two his neighbours, the one an esquire, the other a gentleman & that

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that they haue no urgent affaires, but only to walke abroad to take the fresh aire. When did I shew them both Clothbatches, and veluet batches, & told them the controuersy, & desired their aide to be vpon the Jury. They smiling answered, they were content, & so did Cloth batches seem to reioyce, that such honest antient English gentlemen should be triers of his title. But veluetbatches frowning, stept in & made challeng to them all. I demanded the reason why he should refuse Gentlemen of so good calling? And he made me this answer.

Why you may gesse the inward minde by the outward apparell, & see how he is adicted by the homely robes he is suted in. Why this knight is mortall enemy to pride & so to me, he regardeth hospitality & aimeth at honoꝝ with relieuing the poore, you may see although his landes & reuenues be great, & he able to maintain himself in great brauery, yet he is content with home spun cloth, & scoꝛneth the pride that is now adaires bled amongst young vpstarts, he holdeth not the worth of his Gentry to be & consist in veluet batches, but valeweth true fame by the report of the common, sort, who praise him for his vertue, Justice, liberality, housekeeping and almesdeeds, Vox populi vox Dei, his tennants & farmers would if it might bee possible: make him immortall with their praises & praises. He raiseth no rent, racketh no lands, taketh no incoimbs, imposeth no mercilesse fines, enuies not an other, buyeth no house ouer his neighbours head, but respecteth his country & the commodity thereof, as deere as his life. Hee regardeth moze to haue the needy fed, to haue his bord garnished with full platters, then to famous himself with excessive furniture in apparel. Since then he scoꝛneth pride, he must of force proclaim himselfe mine enemy, & therfore he shal be none of my iury, & such as himselfe I gesse the Squire and the Gentleman and therfore I challeng them all thre. Why quoth I, this is strange, that a man should be drawne from a quest for his goodnesse. If men for vertue be challenged, whom shall we haue vpon the Jury, your obiection helpes not maister veluet batches, for if hee be a man of so godly a disposition, he will neither speake for feare or fauour, hee will regard neither the riches of the one, nor the plaine pouerty of the other, whereupon sith you haue made mee trior, I allowe them all thre to bee of the Jury, and so I requested them to sit down till our Jury was ful, which they courteously did, although veluetbatches frownd at it. When I looking for moze, saw wher ther came a troope of men in apparell seeming poore

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honest

A quippe for

honest Citizens. in all they were eight. I demaunded of them what they were, & whether they were going. One of them that seemed the welthiest, who was in a furred Jacket made answere, that they were all friends going to the buriall of a neighbour of theirs, that yester night died, and if it would do him any pleasure to heare their names, they were not so dainty but that they would tell them, and so then he began to tell me that by his art he was a Skinner, the second said he was a Joiner, the third was a Sadler, the fourth a waterman, the fift was a Cutler. the sixt was a Bellows mender, the seauenth a Plaiasterer, and the eight a Printer. In good time qnoth I, it is cominendable when neighbours loue so well together, but if your speede bee not ouer much, I must request you to bee of a Jury, so I discourst vnto them the controuersie betwene Clothbzeches and veluet bzeches, and to what issue it must grow by a verdict, they seemed al content, and I turned to the Plaintife and defendant, and asked if they would make challeng to any of these. I scozne qd. veluet bzeches, to make any great oblection against them, sith they bee mecanicall men, and I almost hold them indifferent, for this I know, they get as much and moze by me than by him, the Skinner I vse for furred, whereas this base Clothbzeches hath scarce a golwe faced once in his life, the Sadler for costly imbroidered saddels, the ioiner for seeling my house, the cutler for gilt rapiers the Water man I vse continually, ten times for his once, and so likewise the Plaiasterer, for the Bellowsmender alas pooze snake I knowe him not, for the Printer by our Lady I thinke I am some tenne pounds in his debt for bookes, so that for my part let them all passe. And for me too qd. Cloth bzeches, but yet a little to put them in remembzance of their follies, let me haue a bout with them all, and first to you maister Skinner, to whome I can say little but only this, that whereas you should only put the backs of skinnes into facing, you take the wombs and so de-reine the buier, besides if you haue some fantastike skin brought you not worth two pence, with some strange spots though it bee of a libbet, you will sweare tis a most pretious skin, and came from Musco or the farthest parts of Calabria. The Sadler he stufes his pannels with straw or hay and ouer galeth them with haire, and makes the leather of them of moztis, or tand sheeps skins. The ioyner though an honest man, yet hee maketh his ioynts weake, and putteth in sap in the moztels, which should be the hart of the tre, and all to make his

Ruff

an vpstart Courtier.

Stiffe slender. And you Cutler, you are patron of ruffions and swash
 bucklers, and will sell them a blade that may be thrust into a bushell,
 but if a poore man come that cannot skil of it, you sell him a sword or
 rapier new ouerglased, and swear the blade came either from Turkey
 or Toledo. Now maister waterman you will say there is no subtilty
 in you, so; ther is none so simple but that knows your fares, and what
 is due betweene Greenwich and London, and howe you pearne your
 mony painfully with the sweat of your browes, al this is true, but let
 mee whisper one thing in your eare, you will play the goodfellow too
 much if you be well greased in the fist, so; if a young Gentleman and
 a pretty wench come to you & say, waterman, my friend and I meane
 to go by water and to be merry a night or two, I care not which way
 no; whether we go, and therefore where thou thinkest we may haue
 best lodging thither carrie vs: then off goes your cap and away they
 go, to bzainsford or some other place, and then you say hostesse I pray
 you vse this Gentleman and his wife wel, they are come out of Lon-
 don to take the aire and mean to be merry here a night or two, and to
 spend their mony frankly, when God wot they are neither man nor
 wife, nor perhaps of any acquaintance before the match made in some
 bawdy tauerne, but you knowe no such matter, and therefore wa-
 terman I pardon you. And so; you Plasterer and Bellowsmender
 I passe you ouer, and so do I the Printer too, only this I must needs
 say to him that some of his trade will print lewd bookes, and bawdy
 pamphlets, but Auri sacra fames quid non? and therefore I am con-
 tent they shal be al of the iury. I was glad there were so many ac-
 cepted of at once, and hoped that now quickly the iury would be ful,
 looking about me, straight I might see one alone come running as fast
 as he could. I wondred what he should be that he made such hast, &
 the skinner told me he was an honest man and one of their company,
 by his occupation a bricklaier. Oh qd. Meluet breeches, a good honest
 simple man, he hath been long in my worke, building me a sumptuous
 house. But I challeng him, qd. Cloth breeches, so; he is a iugler. Who
 qd. I. can it be, see he goeth very homelie in leather and hath his ruler
 in his hand & his trowel at his side, & he seemeth not as one that were
 giuen to such qualities, yes qd. cloth breeches, he hath this policie,
 when he maketh a statelie place al glorious to the eye and full of faire
 chambers and goodlie roomes, and about the house perhaps some
 threescore Chimnies, yet hee carrie so cunningly cast by his art,

A quippe for

that thre of them shal not smoke in the twelue moneth, & so spoiles be much good moztar and brick. Why qd. I the fault is not in the woꝛke-
man but in the housekeeper, for now a dayes men builde for to please
the eie, not to profite the poꝛe, they vse no roſt, but for themselues, and
their household, noꝛ no fire but a little court chimney in their own cham-
ber, how can the poꝛe bricklayer then bee blamed, when the niggard-
nes of the Lord oꝛ master is the cause no moꝛe chimnies do smoke, for
would they vse ancient hospitality as their foꝛefathers did, and value
as lightly of pride, as their great grand fathers, then should you see
euery chimney in the house smoke, and pꝛoue that the poꝛe artificer had
done his part. Why then qd. Clothbꝛaches as you please, admitte him
on the quest. But what be those qd. Clothbꝛaches, that come hẽre so
soberly? I hope they be honest men, for they looke very demure, I will
inquire saide I, and with that steppinge to them, I demaunded their
names, and very courtiously the one saide he was a brewer, the other a
butcher, the third a baker, and the fourth a viltier. Hearing what they
were, I was glad, ghesing sith they were so honest substantiall men,
that they would helpe to make vp the Jury, when Melnet. bꝛaches
with a grim and soure countenance gaue them this challenge. I hold
it not necessary (quoth hee) that these haue any thinge to deale in my
cause, sith I am at ods with them all, at least in forty pounds a pẽce,
for this seauen yeares I haue beene indebted vnto them for breade,
beefe, beere and other victuals, then sith they haue credited mee longe,
and I haue had so little care to pay them, I doubt now they wil reueng
themselues and passe against me in the verdict. Pay (quoth I) the ra-
ther will they hold on your part, for if they be honest wise menne (as
they seeme to bee) they will be carefull of your pꝛeferment, seeing the
moꝛe highely you are aduanced, the moꝛe like are they to come by
their owne. If therefore you can obiect no other pointes of dishonesty
against them, I see no reason why they shoulde bee put by. If you doe
not (quoth Clothbꝛaches) then heare me and I will pꝛoue them vnfit
to haue any dealings here, and first for the Butcher. I pray you good-
man Kil-calse, what hauocke play you with puffing vp of meate, and
blowing with your pꝛicker as you flea it, haue you not your artificiall
knaneries to set out your meate with pꝛickes, and then sweare he hath
moꝛe for money then ever you bought, to sell a pice of an old Cow for
a chop of a young Ore, to wash your olde meate that hath hung wel-
gring in the shop with new blood, to trust away an olde ewe in stead
of

an vpstart Courtier.

of a young weather, & although you know it is hurtful and forbidden by the statutes to flea your hides, skines, backs, with cuts and slashes to the impouershing of the poore shoemaker when hee buies it, yet I pray you how many slaughters do you make in a poore Calues skin? Oh Butcher, a long lent be your punishment, for you make no conscience in deceiuing the poore. And you masse Brewer that growe to be worth forty thousand pounds by your selling of soden water, what subtilty haue you in making your beere, to spare the malt & put in the more of the hop to make your drinke (be barly neuer so cheape) not a whit the stronger, & yet neuer sel a whit the more measure for mony, you can when you haue taken all the hart of the malt away, then clap on skore of water tis cheape enough, and mash out a tunning of smale beere, that it scoures a mans matwe like rennish wine: in your conscience how many barrels draw you out of a quarter of malt: hee, hee I conceale your falshood, least I should bee too broad in setting downe your faults. And for you godman Baker, you that loue to be seene in the open market place vpon the Pillory, the world cries out of your wickednesse, you craue but one deare yeare to make your daughter a Gentlewoman. you buy your cozne at the best hand, and yet wil not be content to make your bread weight by many ounces, you put in yeast and salt to make it heuie, and yet al your policy cannot make it but fine for the Pillory, the poore crie out, the rich find fault, and the Lord Maior & the Sherifs like honorable & worshipful maiestrats, euery day walke abroad & weigh your bread, and yet al wil not serue to make you honest men, but were extremity bled, and the statute put in the highest degre in practise, you woulde haue as few eares on your heads as the Collier. Last to you Tom tapster, that tap your smale cannes of beere to the poore, and yet fil them half ful of froth that cards your beere (if you see your guests begin to be drunke) halfe smal & halfe strong, you cannot bee content to pinch with your small pots & your Dstye saggots, but haue your truggs to drawe men on to villany, and to bring customers to your house, where you sell a ioint of meat for xii. pence that cost you scarce six, & if any chance to go on the skore, you skore him when he is a slepe, and let vp a great a day more then he hath, to finde you drinking pots with your companions: to be short, thou art a knaue, and I like not of any of the rest, the way lies before you, and therefore you may be gon, for you shal be none of the quest. I smild to see Cloth breeches so peremptory, when I sawe fine

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fat fellows al in damask coles and golwnes welted with Weluet very
bzaue, and in great consultation, as if they wer to determine of some
waighty matter, drawing néere I saw they were welthy Citizens, so
I went and reuerently saluted them, & told them how we neded their
aide about the appeasing of a controuersie, shewing them where the
knight, esquire, and other staied, tell we might finde men to fill vp the
Jury, they were contented, but beluetbæches excepted against sow-
er of them and said they were none of his friends, that was the mar-
chant, goldsmith, mercer, and draper, his allegations were these, that
they were all fethered of one winge to fetch in young Gentlemen by
commodities vnder the colour of lending of mony: for the Marchant
deliuered the yron, Tin, Lead, hops, Sugars, Spices, Diles, browne
paper or whatsoeuer else from sixe moneths to sixe moneths, whiche
when the poore Gentleman came to sell againe, hee coulde not make
threelcoze and ten in the hundred beside the vsury. The Mercer he fol-
loweth the vpstart Gentleman that hath no gouernment of himselfe,
and he sedeth his humoz to go bzaue, he shall not want silkes, Sattins
Weluets, to prauke abroad in his pompe, but with this prouision, that
he must bind ouer his land in a statute marchant or staple, & so at last
forfeit all vnto the mercilesse mercer, and leaue himself neuer a foot of
ground in Englande, which is the reason that for a few remnauntes
of beluets and silkes, the Mercer creepeth into whole Lordships. The
Goldsmith is not behinde, for most of them deale with vsury, and let
young Gentlemen haue commodities of plate for ten in the hundred,
but they must lose the fashion in sellinge it againe (which cuts them
soze) beside they are most of them skilde in alchmy, & can temper met-
tales shrewdly, with no little profite to themselves, & disadvantage to
the buier, beside puffer rings, and quaint conceits which I omit. And so
for you Draper, he fetcheth them off for liuery cloth, and cloth for six
moneths & six, & yet hath he more knacks in his budget, for hee hath so
darke a shop, that no man can wel chuse a peece of cloth if so shadows
the die and the thred, a man shall be deceiued in the wool and the nap,
they cause the clothworker so to presse them, beside hee imposeth this
charge to the Clothworker that he draw his cloth and pull it passinge
hard when he sets it vpon the senters, that he may haue it full bredth
and length till threed and all teare and rent in peces, what care they
for that, haue they not a drawer to serue their turne to drawe and
seame vp the holes so cunningly that it shall neuer be espied: my selfe
haue

an vpstart Courtier.

haue scene in one broad cloth eightene scoze holes forne rackt and
puld by the Cloth worker, only to please the Draper and deceiue the
common wealth. To be short, the Cloth worker what with rowing &
setting in a fine nap, with powdering it and pressing it, with shering
the wolle to the puse of the thread, deale so cunningly that they proue
themselves the Drapers minister to execute his subtilties, therefore
if he chance to come let him be remembred. Now sir for the Vintner,
he is an honest substantial man a friend to all goodfellows, and truly
my friend for my money, and worthy to be of the iury. Why, no quoth
clothbatches I am of another mind, for I hold him as deceitful as any
of the rest, what the vintner, why, he is a kind of Necromancer, for at
midnight when all men are in bed, then he forsooth falls to his charmes
and spels, so that he tumbles one hogthead into another, and can make
a cup of claret that hath lost his colour to looke high with a dash of red
wine at his pleasure, if he hath a strong gascoigne wine, for feare it
should make his guests to sone drunke, he can allay it with a small
rochel wine he can cherish wth white wine with sack, & perhaps if you
bid him wash the pot cleane when hee goes to drawe you a quart of
wine, hee will leaue a little water in the bottome, and then draw it
ful of wine, and what and if he do? tis no harme, wine and water is
good against the heat of the liuer. It were infinite to rehearse the iug-
ling of the vintners, the disorder of their houses, especially of the per-
sons that frequent them, and therefore sith velvetbatches hath put by
the marchant, goldsmith, mercer, and draper, the vintner shal go with
them for company. As these were going away in a snuff, for beeing
thus plainly taunted, we might see a made merry crue come leaping
ouer the field as frolickly as if they ought not all the world two pence,
and drawing more nearer we might perceiue that either bottle-ale
or beere had made a fray with them, for the lifting of their feet shewed
the lightnes of their heads, the foremost was a plain country sir John,
or vicar that had proclaimed by the rednes of his nose he did go oftner
into the alehouse then the pulpit, and him I asked what they were and
whether they were going, what are you go. the prest, that standeth by
the high way to examine me and my friends, heeres none in my com-
pany but are able to answer for themselves, I seing they were all set
on a merry pin, told the cause, and how the controuersie grew betwixt
Cloth batches and Velvet batches and that we needed them to bee
of the quest. Parry (quoth Sir John) a good motion, know these all
are

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are my parishioners, & we haue bene drinkeing with a poore man, and spending our monye with him, a neighbour of ours that hath lost a colw, now we for our names and trades, this is a smith, the second a weauer, the third a miller, the fourth a cooke, the fifth a carpenter, the sixt a glouer, the seauenth a pedler, the eight a tinker, the ninth a waterberer, the tenth a husbandman, the eleventh a diar, and the twelfth a sailoer, and I their Vicar: how could you sir haue a fitter iury then me and my parishioners? you are a little to bzeafe. qd, Cloth breeches, are you not some puritane M. parson, or some fellow that raiseth vp new scismes and herisies amongst your people? A plague on them all quoth I sir, for the world was neuer in quiet, deuotion, neighbourhoode nor hospitality neuer flourished in this land, since such vpstart boies & shittle witted soles became of the ministry, I cannot tel, they pzeach faith, faith, and say that doing of almes is papistray, but they haue taught so long Fides solam iustificat, that they haue pzeached good woorkes quit out of our Parish, a poore man shal as sone bzeake his necke as his fall at a rich mans doore: for my frend, I am in dede none of the best schollers, yet I can read an Homily euery sanday and holyday, and keepe company with my neighbours, and goe to the alehouse with them, and if they be fallen out, spende my money to make them friends, and on the Sundaies somtime if goodfellowship call me away, I say both moorning & euning praier at once, & so let them haue a whole afternoone to play in. This is my life, I spende my liuing with my parishioners, I seek to do al good, and I offer no man harm.

Well qd (Clothbreeches) I warrant thou art an honest Vicar, and therefore stand by, thou shalt be one of the quest, and for you smith, I see no great fault in you, you earne your lining with the sweat of your browes, and ther can be no great knauery in you, only I would haue you to amend your life for drinkeing, sith you are neuer at quiet vnles the pot be still at your nose. But you weauer, the Proverbe puts you down for a crafty knaue, you can, filch and steale almost as ill as the Tailoer, your woofe and warpe is so cunningly drawne out that you plague the poore countrey Huswines for their yearne, and drawe on so much dzigs that you make it seme both well wrought and to beare weight, when it is slenderly wouen, and you haue stolne a quarter of it from the poore wife. Away, be packing, for you shall be cashiered. What Miller, shake hands with your brother the Weauer for knauery: You can take toll twice, and haue false hoppers to con-

conuay away the poore mans meale. We gone I loue not your dusky
 lookes, and for company Goodman Cooke goe you with them, for you
 coulin the poore men and country Learners with your filthy meat:
 you wil buy of the worst & cheapest, when it is bad enough for dogs,
 and yet so powder it & parboile it, that you will sell it to some honest
 poore men, and that vnreasonable too: If you leaue any meate ouer
 night, you make a shift to heate it againe the next day: Nay, if on
 the thursday at night ther be any left, you make pies of it on Sunday
 mornings, and almost with your slouely knauery poyson the poore
 people. To be short, I bidd you not, and therefore be walking. For
 the Carpenter, Glouer, and Water bearer, the Husbandman, Dier
 & Sailor, with your trades haue but petty sights, stand you wth Mai-
 ster Vicar, you are like to helpe to giue in the verbid: but for the ped-
 ler and the tinker, they are two notable knaues, both of an haire, &
 both cozin germanes to the diuel. For the tinker, why he is a drow-
 se, bandy, drunken companion, that walks bp & down with a trug
 after him, and in stopping one hole he makes thre: & if in conuenient
 place they meet with one alone, perhaps rife him or her of all that
 euer they haue. A base knaue without feare of God, or loue to any
 one, but to his whoze and himselfe. The Pedler as bad or rather
 worse, walketh the country with his docksey at the least, if he haue
 not two his moxtes dels, and Autem mortis, he passeth commonly
 through euery paire of stocks, either for his drunkenness, or his le-
 chery. And beside it is reported you can lift or nup a bounge like a
 guire Coue, if you want pence, & that you carry your pack but for a
 colour to shadow your other villanies, wel howsoeuer, you are both
 knaues and so be iogging. Wel qd I suppose the iury be almost full,
 I beloeue we want not aboue thre or four persons: looke you where
 they come to make bp y^r number, and they should be men of god dis-
 position, for they seeme to be al of the country. Asone as they came
 to vs I met them, and told the matter, and they were content.

The one said he was a Crasser, the other a Farmer, the other a
 Shepheard, to them both What think you of these thre qd I: marry
 saith Meliethatches, two of them are honest men, but the other is
 a base knaue: but tis no matter, shuffle him in amongst y^r rest. Nay
 by your leane quoth Clothbatches, I will shuffle out these thre, for
 they are very Cozmojants of the Country, and deure the poore
 people with their monstrous exaction. And first I alledge against
 the

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the Grasser that he foretalleth pastures and medow grounds, for the feeding of his cattell, and wyingeth leases of them out of poore mens hands, and in his buying of cattell he committeth great vsury, for if it proue a wet yeare, then hee maketh hauock and selleth deare: if it be a dry yeare, then he buieth cheape, and yet hauing pasture keepes them till he may come to his owne pyle: he knoweth as well as the Butcher by the fede of a Bullock how much Callo w he will yelde, what his quarters will amount vnto: what the Tanner will giue for the Hide: nay, what the sowe wiues are able to make of the inwards: so that he sels it so deare to the Butcher, that he can scarce liue of it, and therefore what subtilty the Butcher vseth commeth from the Grasser, so that I exempt him from the quest as a bad member, and an ill friend to Clothebatches. And for you masse Farmer, you know how thorough you couetous Land-lords raise their rents, for if a poore man haue but a plough land, if you see his pastures beare good grasse, and his earable ground good coyne, and that he prospereth and goeth forward on it and prouideth and maintaineth his wife and seruants honestly, then Inuidus alterius rebus marcessit opinis, vicinumque pecus grandius vber habet.

Then straight enuy pricks the Farmer forward and hee bids the Landlord far more then the poore man paies yearly for it: so that if hee bee a Tenant at will, hee puts him out to beg in the street: or when his lease comes out hee ouer loades him in the fine, and thus bloudsacketh hee the poore for his owne priuate profite. Besides the base chaffe if he sees a forward yeare & that coyne is like to be plenty, then he murmereth against God, and swereth and protesteth he shall be vndone: respecting more the filling of his owne coffers by a dearth, then the profite of his country by a generall plenty. Beside sir may it please you, when new coyne comes into the market, who brings it in to relieue the state? Not your mastership, but the poore husbandman, that wants pence. For you keepe it till the back end of the yeare nay you haue your Warners which haue coyne of two or thre yeares old, upon hope still of a deare yeare, rather letting the weasels eate it, then the poore should haue it at any reasonable price. So that I conclude, you are a Cozmoyant of the common wealth, and a wretch that liues of the spoile of the needy, and so I leaue you to iet with the Grasser. Harry for the Sepheard, vntesse it be that he killeth a Lambe now and then, and saies the fox stole him, I know little craft in his budget, therefore

therefoze let him be amongst the honest men of the Jury.

Wel Clothbꝛaches qd I, you are very peremptoꝝy in your challenges, what say you, here comes thꝛe oꝝ foure Citizens, wil any of these serue turne, I cannot tell qd, he till I know their names & conditions, with that I stept afoze the company & enquired what they were, the eldest of them being a graue Citizen, said he was a grocer, the rest his good & honest neighbours, a Chandler, a Haberdasher, a Clothwoꝝker, and two strangers, one a Mallon, the other a Dutchman. How like you of these qd. I to belue bꝛaches? wel enough qd. he, foꝝ I am a little acquainted with them, yet I know they fauour me, because I haue on a Sunday seen them all in their likes. I marry, quoth Clothbꝛaches, but they neuer get that bꝛauery with honesty, foꝝ the Clothwoꝝker his faults were laid open, befoze when we had the Draper in question, and therefoze let him be packing. Foꝝ you chandler, I like not your tricks, you are too conuersant with the kitchin stuffe wiues, you after your work oꝝ snaffe is stiffened, you dip it in filthy dꝛosse, & after giue him a coat of good fallow, which makes the candles dꝛop and wast away, to the great hinderance of the poꝝe woꝝkemen that watcheth in the night. Beside you pinch in your waights, and haue false measurs, and many other knaueries that I omit, but this be sure you shal not meddle in my matter, neither the Haberdasher, foꝝ he trims vp olde felts and makes them very saire to the eie, and faceth & edgeth them neatly, & then he turns them away to such a simple man as I am: and so abuseth vs with his cozenage. Beside you buy gumd Lafafa, wherwith you line Hats that will straight asunder aslone as it comes to the heat of a mans head. To be bꝛeife, I am not well skild in your knaueries. But indeed you are too subtilt foꝝ poꝝe Clothbꝛaches, and therfoze you shalbe none of the Jury. Marry the Grocer seems an honest man, and I am content to admit of him, only take this as a caueat by y way, that you buy of the Carbellers of spices, the refuse that they list from y merchant, and that you mix again and sell to your customers. Besides in your beaten spices as in peper you put in bay beries & such dꝛos, and so wzing the poꝝ, but these are flight causes, and so I ouerpaſſe them, and vouchsafe you to be of the quest. But I pray you what be those two honest men? quoth the Grocer, the one a dutchman and a Shomaker, the other a Frenchman and a Pilainer in S. Martins, and sels Shirts, Bands, Bracelets, Jewels, and such pretie toys foꝝ

A quippe for

Gentlewomen: oh they be of Weluethzarches acquaintance, vpsstarts as well as he, that haue bzought with them pride and abuses into England, and first to the Villainer. What teies deuileth be to see the humoz of the vpsstart Gentleman withall, and of sond gentlewomen, such fans, such ouches, such bzoches, such bzacelets, such grafcies, such pertwigs, such paintings, such ruffes and cuffs, as hath almost made England as ful of proud foppies as Tirc & Sidon were. There is no Seamster can make a band or a shirt so wel as his wife and why forsooth: because the filthy quean weares a fraunce, and is a Frenchwoman forsooth. Where as our Englishwomen of the Exchange are both better workwomen, and wil afford a better penniworth. And so for the drunken Dutchman, this shoemaker, he and such as he is, abuseth the commonwealth, and the poor mechanick men and handicrafts men of London, for our new vpsstart soles of Weluethzarches fraternity, liketh nothing but that the outlandish Ass maketh, they like no sho so well as y the Dutchman maketh, when our Engltsh men passe themfar, and so for chandlers, and al othor occupations, they are wronged by the Duch and French. And therefore sith the Commons hates them, they cannot be my friends and therefore let them be launching to Flushing, for they shal be no friers of my controuersie. Wel quoth I, now I suppose the Jury is full, and we see no moze comming, let vs cal them and see how many we haue. So they appeared to their names, as followeth.

The names of the iury to be empanelled.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1 Knight. | 13 Cutler. |
| 2 Esquire. | 14 Plaisterer. |
| 3 Gentleman. | 15 Saylor. |
| 4 Priest. | 16 Ropemaker. |
| 5 Printer. | 17 Smith. |
| 6 Grocer. | 18 Glouer. |
| 7 Skinner. | 19 Husbandman. |
| 8 Dier. | 20 Shepheard. |
| 9 Pewterer. | 21 Waterman. |
| 10 Sadler. | 22 Waterbearer. |
| 11 Ioyner. | 23 Bellowsmender. |
| 12 Bricklaier. | |

What is it not possible quoth I, to haue one woze to make vp the foure & twenty: as I was thus speaking, I espied a far off, a certain kind of an ouerwozne gentleman attired in Helmet and Plate, but it was somewhat dopped and greasie, and bootes on his legges, whose soles wered thin & seemed to complaine of their Mailer which treading thzist vnder his feet, had brought the vnto that consumption, he walked not as other men in the common beaten way, but came compassing Circum circa, as if we had beene Diuells, and he would draw a Circle about vs, and at euery third step he looked back as if he were afraid of a Baily or a Bariant.

After him followed two pert Applesquires, the one had a murrey cloth gowne on, faced down befoze with gray conny, and larde thick on y^e sleeves with lace, which he quaintly bare vp to shew his white Tassata hose, and black silk Stockings, a huge ruffe about his necke wrapt in his great head like a wicker cage, a little Hat with bzims like the wings of a doublet, wherein he woze a Jewell of Glasse, as broad as a chancery seale: after him followed two boies in cloakes like butterflies: caryng one of them his cutting sword of choller, the other his dauncing rapier of delight. His Comerade that bare him company was a iolly light timberd Jack a Papes in a sute of watteret Tassata cut to the skin, with a cloake all to be dawbed with colourd lace, both he and my gowned brother seemed by their pale as if they had some lutes to Monsieur Wats. At length coming nar, I might decerne the first to be a Poet, the second a Plaiier, the third a Musitian, alias the Master of a dauncing Schole. Well met Mailer Poet quoth I, and welcome you friends also, though not so particularly known. So it is, though none of you thze be comon wealthsmen, yet vpb bzgent necessitie we must be forced to employ you. We haue a Jury to be empanelled immediatly, which one of you thze must help to make vp, even he which approues himself the honestest man. They are all honest men and goodfellowes quoth Helmetbzatches, therefore it is no great matter whether of them we chole.

The Doctors doubt of that quoth Clothbzatches, for I am of a different opinion. The first whome by his carelesse slouenly gate at first sight I imagined to be a Poet, is a waste good and an vnthzist, that he is bozn to make the Taverns rich and himselfe a begger, if he haue forty pound in his purse together, he puts it not to vsury, neither buies land nor marchandise with it, but a moneths commo-

A quippe for

dity of wenches and Capons. Ten pound a supper, why tis nothing,
 if his plough goes and his inkhorne be cleere: Take one of them
 worth twenty thousand pounds and hang him. He is a king of his
 pleasure, and counts al other Woyses and Mesants, that though they
 haue mony at command yet know not like him how to Domineere
 with it to any purpose as they should. But to speak plainely I thinke
 him an honest man if he would but line within his compasse, and ge-
 nerally no mans foe but his own. Wherefoze I hold him a man fit to
 be of my iury. Pay quoth beluet bzaches, I haue moze mind to these
 two, for this Poet is a pꝛoud fellow, that because he hath a little wit
 in his budget wil contemn and mislike vs that are the common sort
 of Gentlemen, and thinke we are beholding to him if he do but be-
 stow a fair looke vpon vs. The Plaier and the vther of the dauncing
 schoule, are plaine, honest, humble men, that for a penny or an old cast
 sute of apparell. And quoth Clothbzaches you say troth, they are
 but too humble, for they be so lowly, that they be base minded, I mean
 not in their lookes or apparell, for so they be. Bearcoches and painted
 asses, but in their course of life, for they care not how they get crowns,
 I meane how basely so they haue them, and yet of the two I hold the
 Plaier to be the better Christian, although in his owne imagina-
 tion too full of selfeliking and selfeloue, and is vnfit to be of the Iury
 though I hide and conceale his faults and fopperies, in that I haue
 bene merry at his sports, onely this I must say, that such a plaine
 country fellow as my selfe, they bzing in as clownes and fooles to
 laugh at in their play, wheras they get by vs, and of our almes the
 pꝛoudest of them all doth line. Well, to be bzæse, let him trot to the
 stage, for he shall be none of the Iury. And for you master Vther of
 the dauncing schoule, you are a leader into all misrule, you instruct
 Gentlemen to order their feet, whẽ you dꝛine them to misorder their
 manners, you are a bad fellow that stand vpon your tricks and ca-
 pers, till you make young Gentlemen caper without their landes,
 why sir to be flat with you, you line by your legs, as a iugler by his
 hands, you are giuen ouer to the pumps and vanities of the world,
 and to be short you are a keeper of misrule and a lewd fellow, and you
 shall be none of the quest, why thẽ quoth I, you are both agreed that
 the Poet is he that must make vp the ruij. They answered both, he,
 and none but he. Then I calling thẽ all together, bad them lay
 their hands on the booke, and first I read the Bill, and after the
rest

an vpstart Courtier.

rest as they followed in order, then I gaue them their charge thus.

Whorshipful Sir with the rest of the Jury, whome we haue solicited of choice honest men, whose consciences will deale byrightly in this controuersie, you and the rest of your company are here vpon your oth and othes to inquire whether Clothbatches haue done deselison vnto Weluetbatches yea or no in or about London, in putting him out of franke tenement wronging him of his right and imbolliſhing his credit, if you finde that clothbatches hath don weluetbatches wrong, then let him bee set in his former estate and allow him reasonable damages. Upon this they laied their handes on the booke and were swozne and departed to scrutine of the matter by inquiry amongst themselves, not stirring out of our sight nor staying long, but straight returned, and the knight for them all as the foremost, said thus. So it is, that we haue with equity and conscience considered of this controuersie betwene Weluetbatches and Clothbatches, as touching the prerogative of them both, which are most worthy to bee rightly resident, & haue seison in Frank tenement here in England, and we do finde that Clothbatches is by many hundred yeares more antient, euer since Brute an inhabitant in this Island, one that hath bene in *Diebus illis* a companion to kings, an equall with the nobility a friend to Gentlemen and yeomen, and patron of the poore, a true labiet, a good housekeeper, and generall as honest as hee is ancient, Whereas Weluetbatches is an vpstart come out of Italy, begot of Pride, nursed by selfeloue, & brought into this country by his companion Pusanglenesse, that hee is but of late time a raiser of rents, & an enemy to the common wealth, and one that is not any way to be preferred in equity before Clothbatches to haue don him no wrong, but that hee hath lawfully claimed his title of Frank tenement, and in that wee appoint him for euer to bee resident. At this verdict pronounced by the knight, all the standers by clapt their hands, and gaue a mighty shout, whereat I started and awaked, for I was in a dreame and in my bed, and so rose vp, and wrot in a merry daine what you haue heard.

FINIS.

